

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2574.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1877.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

WILL CLOSE ON SATURDAY, THE 3RD OF MARCH.
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Copies of the Form of Entry, which is required to be sent in by
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logically,' &c. Adjourned Discussion on Mr. Serjeant Cox's Paper,
Sleep and Dream.

FRANCIS K. MUNTON, Hon. Sec. (Willesden, N.W.)

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1877.

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LITERATURE

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

The City of Sunshine. By Alexander Allardyce. 3 vols. (Edinburgh, Blackwood & Sons.)

Riding Out the Gale. By Annette Lyster. 3 vols. (Samuel Tinsley.)

Michael Strogoff, the Courier of the Czar. By Jules Verne. Translated by W. H. G. Kingston. (Sampson Low & Co.)

Student-Life at Harvard. (Boston, Lockwood, Brooks & Co.)

A Family Party in the Piazza of St. Peter, and other Stories. By T. A. Trollope. 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

Mr. ALLARDYCE writes with force and spirit, and with a wide knowledge of his subject. Had this knowledge been as accurate as wide, had the author pruned his epithets here and there, and in his descriptions of character been careful not to exaggerate, and had he avoided a grotesqueness of nomenclature which offends the taste of the reader, even in the most felicitous passages, we should have been able to pronounce his novel worthy of the late Col. Meadows Taylor. As it is, Mr. Allardyce's book will certainly be extensively read in India. It appeals not only to the writer's fellow-countrymen, but to educated Hindûs. The Bengalee will find in it a great deal about caste, the Brahmo-Somâj, education, Mofussil justice, the money-lending system in rural districts, betrothal of infants, and the rest, which are just those topics which most nearly interest him. The plot, too, is realistic, and well worked out; and we could certainly select more than half-a-dozen characters who stand out distinctly from each other, and each true to human nature as it is developed in the country life of the Hindû peasant of the Gangetic Valley. Not love, nor ambition, nor chivalry in its many forms, will ever form the central spring of an Indian novel of the highest class. Religion is the "air, fire, water, and food" of the Asiatic. His sublimest love is fervidly sacred. The highest ambition, in his opinion, is that of the ascetic, who, by penance and wonderful sacrifices, can conquer even the greatest deities, and rule the three worlds. And deeds of bravery are always consecrated and crowned by religion. Mr. Allardyce has understood this fact, and the interest of his book is mainly religious. This is as it should be, but unluckily the faults of the novel are so numerous that quite

a quarter of the book must be re-written if it is to take rank as a classic of its kind. For instance, Mr. Allardyce seems to confuse Siva worship with that of Vishnu. The "deputy magistrate of Dhupnagar" worships Siva and swears by Vishnu. Even the priest of the sacred *Linga* does the same thing, and actually sends off his son to the Calcutta University with the blessing of *Vishnu* on his head. As in another place we are told that Siva is the second person of the Hindu triad, Mr. Allardyce seems to be rather mystic in his ideas concerning the relationships of the chiefs of the Indian Pantheon, or has come across comparatively novel phases of Hinduism, which are not impossible, but are improbable to a high degree. Frequently, too, Mr. Allardyce stumbles sorely when treating of the religious system of Hindûs,—as, for instance, when he goes into the minutiae of ritual and ceremonial observance at the Dhupnagar temple, before its *Linga*—which happens to be an "aerolitic monolith." Then there is too much, too, throughout the volumes about the "village green"—an "institution" rather more common in Europe than in the East, where Hindûs chiefly patronize the bazaar, the tank-steps, the river side, or the stone platforms erected around the base of those huge trees which form a semi-sacred adjunct to nearly every Indian temple. On one page we are led to believe that Hindûs hold it a greater crime and disgrace for a Brahman young man to join in a European dance than to eat beef! This is absurd. The latter deed, in the eyes of a Brahman, is an irredeemable sin; the former a freak, to be winked at, or to be chastised as a trivial peccadillo. It is not the dancing of English men that Hindûs are so astounded at; it is the dancing of modest women with men which they cannot understand. Again, Mr. Allardyce often offends the taste by puerilities unworthy of his pen. The deputy magistrate, for instance, is always called the "dipty." It is neither true nor funny to call the competition-wallah of Bengal "Muffington Prig," or "Muff Prig." As the third volume nears its close, we read of a Lord Gotham, and a Bill brought by him before the House of Lords for "establishing Dissenting denominations!"

After toiling through a few books like Miss Lyster's, it seems for a moment hard to believe that when a young man meets a girl in society, he does not necessarily fall desperately in love with her. There appears to be some hidden mechanism in action to produce these stories, and it deprives the reader even of the dismal pleasure of doubting which young man will marry which young lady. The love affairs are quite certain, and the writer's problem is reduced to the simple, if dreary, task of putting three volumes between love at first sight and marriage. Perhaps love at first sight is a sufficiently unusual accident to justify a critic in protesting against its use as an invariable rule of life in novels. Of course, many ladies put in their books not what they have themselves observed, but rather what they would have happened if things would go in their ideal fashion; still, to make pictures of society out of your own head is as dangerous as for a painter to paint without models. '*Riding Out the Gale*' is a piece of work of the usual thin texture. It is not right to insist on intricate detail or minute analysis; a study of character may be excellent though perfectly simple. But it must be made firmly; and what there is of it must be accurate. Also it must speak for itself, and not require the author to act as showman. Miss Lyster is a very artificial novelist, and frankly tells the reader what she thinks, and wants him to think, of her people. One is a mean scoundrel and does not a single thing, and has not a single thought put into his heart, all through the book, which is not base and mean. Another is upright and good-natured, hot-tempered, and fond of fun; but although he is left to act for himself more than the others, we do not escape a page or two here and there pointing out in general terms what his character is. Still there is something not unpleasant about Miss Lyster's book. It does her some credit personally, though not much as a writer, and if she does not interest, at least she does not annoy. Her grammar is above the average, and the evident signs of her own good humour at times make us sorry we cannot say more for her book as a whole.

Russia is an awkward country to invade, especially for Frenchmen. And even M. Jules Verne, who has been everywhere and seen everything, who has travelled safely up to the moon and down the crater of Mount Hecla, dived twenty thousand leagues under the sea, and thrown a girdle around the world in eighty days, has found his recent race through Russia a serious undertaking. Even his rapid imagination labours somewhat when it has to traverse Russian distances and scramble through Siberian snows. But it is more pleasant to applaud his successes than to record his failures. As a geographical exercise his new book may be warmly recommended to ingenuous youth, though it is a pity he did not leave out one or two horrors, such as the blinding of one man with a red-hot sabre, and the burying of another up to his neck in the earth (a position already made quite familiar enough by Capt. Mayne Reid), and the intended flogging of an old woman in the presence of her son. These are vulgar horrors, above which M. Jules Verne should soar, and which his illustrator might have abstained from delineating. However, they will render his book all the more palatable to boys, whose appetite for horrors is insatiable. Its story is as follows. Michael Strogoff is sent by the Czar to carry a secret letter to a Grand Duke who is beleaguered in Irkutsk by a Tartar host, instigated by a Russian traitor, Col. Ogareff. The courier travels in disguise, accompanied most part of the way by a beautiful young Livonian maiden, and by a French and an English special correspondent. Like the hero of 'Around the World in Eighty Days,' Michael Strogoff meets with every conceivable obstacle to his progress, but his devotion to the Czar and to Holy Russia enables him to surmount them all. In vain does a fearful storm attempt to stop him, and a huge bear to devour his tender travelling companion. Fruitlessly circles a whirlpool around him; bullets swarm about him, but he escapes unscathed; sword-blades and lance-points have over him no power. He is captured by Tartars, but his heart knows no fear. And even when the red-hot sabre is passed before his eyes, the salutary moisture which bedews them springs, not from egotistic

annoyance, but from filial affection. A hero of heroes, he undergoes as many troubles as Ulysses, and brings his vast journey (which requires two maps for its illustration) to a successful close within the walls of Tartar besieged Irkutsk, where he naturally marries the Livonian maiden, whom we fondly imagined to be good looking till we saw her portrait at p. 200. Surely an action for libel ought to lie against an artist who makes an author's heroine hideous! She is really described very prettily, and forms a charming counterpart to Elizabeth, the Exile of Siberia. By way of a set-off to the serious heroism of Strogoff is described the humorous hardihood of the two war correspondents, who continue sending telegrams to their respective newspapers while shells are bursting around them, and until a Tartar invasion of the telegraph office cuts short their invaluable correspondence. Up to this moment they have been inimical rivals, the Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* monopolizing the wire for some time, and sending to that journal the history of John Gilpin's ride intermixed with scraps of martial intelligence, until the French Special supplants him during an incautious moment, and retaliates by sending to Paris similar scraps linked together by "a merry refrain of Béranger." But thanks to their simultaneous capture, the rivals become bosom friends, and towards the end of the story we learn that "the two inseparables set out for China." On the whole, the book will not add much to M. Jules Verne's well-deserved fame, but it will interest boys, in spite of rather too many passages of the following kind:—

"These vast marshes of the Baraba, lying between the sixtieth and fifty-second parallels, form the reservoir to all the rain-water which finds no outlet either towards the Obi or towards the Irtych. The soil of this vast depression is entirely argillaceous, and therefore impermeable," &c.

A "vast depression" indeed would the youthful mind experience if such passages as this were too frequently introduced. The story of "The Mutineers," which occupies the last thirty pages of the book, is very poor, and had better have been omitted, for Michael Strogoff's fortunes are brought to an abrupt close at a moment when the reader naturally imagines they will run on for thirty pages more. And he is, thereby, not unnaturally disappointed.

'Student-Life at Harvard' is exactly what its title promises for it that it shall be, a description of the life of an American undergraduate at the American Cambridge. It is full of life and spirit, contains wonderful specimens of American university slang, and will be read with special interest by English rowing men.

A collection of short stories is seldom satisfactory to read. The labour involved in making acquaintance every few pages with a fresh set of characters, and transporting himself mentally into wholly new surroundings, is apt to detract from the reader's pleasure, and makes it difficult to avoid weariness, so that the stories run a risk of being judged too severely. These of Mr. Trollope's are above the average of the ordinary magazine story, but whether it is advisable to republish such productions in a permanent form may be doubted. The majority of them are about Italy, where Mr. Trollope is well known to be at home, and those are accordingly the best.

We are, perhaps, most pleased by the one describing a visit to the Casentino, and called 'Antonio da Pelago' after the name of a well-known guide, whose business seems to have been to conduct visitors from Florence to that historical valley and the adjacent monasteries of Vallombrosa, Camaldoli, and Lavernia. It is odd that Mr. Trollope, who seems generally pretty well "up" in the memories of the scenes he visits, should have passed along the head waters of the Arno without any thought of the battle of Campaldino, or a reference to the fifth canto of the 'Purgatory,' the *locus classicus* for all that region. The Roman sketches please us less. There is rather too much of the Romano-British "shop," which makes the English society of the Eternal City resemble so strongly that of Little Paddington. Perhaps, however, this is meant as gentle satire. The other stories do not call for much remark. We are once taken to Brittany, and Mr. Trollope does not escape the usual snare of the English teller of French stories, but introduces many scraps of French into his dialogue. Back in Italy again, he relates the often told tale of Casanova's escape, and gives short accounts of Tintoretto and Goldoni, and a picture of the earthquake which destroyed Belluno on St. Peter's Day, 1873. The book will be found a pleasant one to take up in odd quarters of an hour, but, for the reasons we have given, we do not recommend it for continuous perusal.

Bernardino Ochino of Siena. By Karl Benrath. (Nisbet & Co.)

PROBABLY there were few men whose names were better known, or whose fame was wider spread, in Italy for some eight or ten years in the sixteenth century than the name of the Capuchin monk, Fra Bernardino of Siena. Born about 1487, he had passed the early years of manhood before his merits were recognized, and then, from 1530 to 1540, he was regarded as the greatest preacher of his time. The officials of powerful municipalities contended for the honour and privilege of hearing him, and popes regulated the times and periods of his visits. Dr. Benrath truly says that,—

"Wherever he was to speak the citizens might be seen in crowds; no church was large enough to contain the multitude of listeners. Men flocked as numerously as women. He was met at his arrival, and escorted at his departure, by the dignitaries of the place. The desire of the Italian cities to gain him was so great that at length, to prevent disputes, the Pope reserved to himself the right of decision."

But, when we have said this, we find it difficult to understand why any one should have thought it worth while, at the present moment, to give us an octavo volume about Ochino. It is easy to praise the translation by Miss Zimmern, which is well written, in a pleasant style, but it is impossible to speak so highly of some seven or eight pages of preface by "William Arthur, A.M." whose English is as limited as his metaphors are abundant. He uses the one expression "make it easy" three times in three consecutive lines. He tells us that Ochino was "a gleaming meteor," or "the offscouring of the earth," with "features hidden under the blot with which the Inquisition covers heresy," and at

last dies like "a hunted hare." All this is a little too much to be crammed into a few pages, more especially when the writer does not know the difference between a prebend and a prebendary.

Dr. Benrath has compiled a fair account of the famous friar and his published works, though we find nothing which was not already well known about him. We could have desired, if we were to have the Life at all, somewhat more trouble taken to unravel the mystery which hangs about the true causes of Ochino's change of religious opinion. That a man bred up as Ochino had been for forty years, holding a high office in one of the strictest of severe orders, and enjoying a prodigious reputation not for oratory only, but for purity of manners and the observance of all outward piety, should altogether and suddenly change his faith and live a sensual life calls for an explanation. By sensual we do not mean openly immoral; but as opposed to previous self-denial and austerities. The change is not to be denied, but the mystery of it remains, and probably will for ever, uncleared.

In the spring of 1542 Ochino, then between fifty and sixty years old, came to Naples to preach a course of Lent sermons, and "the people flocked to listen to him when he mounted the pulpit of the S.S. Apostoli." In the month of August, in the same year, he was at Florence, calling the Catholic Church the Church of Antichrist, and speaking of himself as preaching Christ and His Gospel. It is not our function to discuss the question whether Fra Bernardino was right or wrong in the conclusion at which he so suddenly arrived. All we know is that he did so conclude, and, as it were, upon the spur of the moment. Spondanus asserts—not that Dr. Benrath quotes him—that Ochino took a young Italian laundress away with him, and married her at Geneva. Dr. Benrath introduces the wife as already a wife, immediately after the flight, and passes by, as another mystery, who or what she was or when they married. However, it seems certain that Ochino, at whatever date they may have been born, had four children, one of whom was married in 1562.

From Florence Ochino soon retired, and took refuge at Geneva, and, being received by Calvin, at once adopted the Calvinistic theory of Christianity. In a letter of that early date to the Council of Siena, he writes that he acknowledges a holy Church of Christ, the community of the elect, who believe they are justified by Christ alone: and that this is the only infallible Church. And, to name no other example of the character of his new opinions, he not only argues—as he possibly with some reason might from his new position—against the wisdom and piety of monastic vows, but exclaims against and condemns them as being absolutely immoral.

We cannot go into the details of Ochino's after history: he published many books; was received and hospitably treated by the German reformers at Zürich, Geneva, Strasburg, and elsewhere; and, in 1548, came to England with Peter Martyr, under the patronage of archbishop Cranmer. It was then that he was made what Mr. Arthur calls a "prebend" of Canterbury. After the death of Edward the Sixth, he returned to Switzerland, where he remained for some years. Late in 1563, Ochino gave great offence to the other reformers residing in Zürich; he was

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banished, and, after wandering through parts of Poland, he died in Moravia, about the end of the year 1564. Beza says that he died rich; but Beza hated him.

Mr. Arthur seems to think Dr. Benrath's book worth translating into English, in the expectation that it will "become a favourite with many in the United Kingdom," and "serve to revive the spirit which produced Fra Bernardino." If he had wished to render real service to English ecclesiastical history, he might have done so by tracing the influence which Ochino exercised whilst in England, over the many changes which were then made in the Church ritual and formularies. The ex-friar had been especially invited by Cranmer, and was undoubtedly a theologian after the Archbishop's own heart. But the editor—if we may so speak of him—of this book has not added a single word, or given us an atom of information, beyond what is told by Dr. Benrath. The more, therefore, we consider the matter the less can we comprehend why any one should suppose that English people, generally, will take much interest either in the life or works of Ochino. In many respects he was little different from other reformers of his day; from Bullinger, or Peter Martyr, or Zwingli, or Bucer. It is true that, if not formally a Socinian, he had peculiar views upon the doctrine of the Trinity; but, if this had been all, he might perhaps have ended his days quietly at Zürich.

We hardly like to suppose that it has been thought worth while to translate Dr. Benrath's book merely to recommend the doctrine which drove Ochino from Zürich, namely, approval of polygamy. Undoubtedly, upon this point, both Mr. Arthur and the German author might appeal to Luther himself for support, when we remember how that great Reformer signed the permission drawn up by Melanchthon, for the Landgrave of Hesse to take a second wife. On the other hand, the good people of Clapham, whence Mr. Arthur dates his Preface, will be shocked, and inclined to disagree with him. Most certainly, for ourselves, we cannot accept the statement that the sixteenth century was "a susceptible age" as any reason why it should be offended with a defence of polygamy; nor do we even agree that it is a "difficult and ticklish question." Once more, we are ourselves disposed to doubt, in so far as we understand the author's meaning, whether "it is conceivable that, in individual cases, such a principle [*i.e.*, the principle of monogamy?] might not disturb the moral harmony of the person, nay, rather that it might found and establish it more firmly; but the moment it [*i.e.*, monogamy?] comes forward with the demand to be acknowledged as universal principle [*sic!*], it is necessarily exposed to misconstruction and blame." We wish to be just, and therefore by no means desire to deprive Mr. Arthur of the assistance which (though it is new to him) Bale, the Bishop of Ossory, can give, who, praising Ochino and Peter Martyr, thus exclaims:—"Felix Anglia, dum haec paria habuit, misera dum amisit." Yet we would rather refer him to Beza, who not only accuses Ochino of having long held secretly these wild opinions, and speaks of him as "nimium vero detectus," but roundly condemns him as a most impure hypocrite, the concealed favourer of Arianism, and a mocker of all

doctrines of the Christian religion. A little more acquaintance with Beza's works would probably have induced Mr. Arthur to think twice before he edited Dr. Benrath's book.

In short, it is hardly likely at the present time, when the wish of so many people seems to be to get rid of the one wife which a man may have already, that Mr. Arthur will succeed in his attempt (to use his own language) to "reinstate in their due place the commandments of God": nor will he find that the advocacy of polygamy, or the throwing any doubt upon the "principle" of monogamy, will have much effect upon the belief and practice of his countrymen.

The Invasions of England: a History of the Past, with Lessons for the Future. By Capt. H. M. Hozier. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

NEITHER history nor an acquaintance with the art of war justifies the opinion that practically an invasion of England may be considered impossible. They both show that the sea is no impassable barrier, and that a hostile disembarkation attempted by a resolute enemy, even though anticipated and guarded against, rarely fails. An enemy's army landing on our shores might before long be either captured or destroyed; but even 10,000 foreign soldiers, who had succeeded in accomplishing a landing, could in three days do an amount of mischief which it would take a generation to efface. The configuration of England, its abundance of roads and supplies, so greatly favour the designs of an invader that if we were beaten in the first great battle it would be difficult to rally, and continue the struggle. "Yet," as Capt. Hozier in his Preface, remarks:—

"a careful and, I truly believe, an impartial consideration of all the circumstances under which invasions of our island have been attempted, carried out or averted, leads to the belief that sufficient means have as yet not been developed for insuring our safety against invasion from abroad."

In support of this opinion Capt. Hozier gives a sketch of the landing in England of every force regarded as hostile by the *de facto* government. By so doing he has swollen his book to an unnecessary size, and rather overwhelms us with illustrations which really are not cases in point. He even goes back to the invasions of Cesar, which were undertaken under circumstances which can never occur again. The conditions under which the invasions of the Romans, Saxons, Danes, and Normans took place were also such that those invasions afford no useful precedents. The most genuine invasion of England which ever took place was that of William the Conqueror, but no instructive lesson is to be gathered from it. Again, we cannot regard as real invasions any of the landings of the French in the Middle Ages, or of temporarily worsted political parties, for, with a few trifling exceptions, in each case the invader relied rather on aid from within than on force from without. We may, therefore, pass over all the landings and attempted invasions till we come to the reign of Elizabeth. Then, indeed, was the country threatened by a purely foreign invasion. Previously to that time—

"The buccaneers who had ever and anon swept down on the villages and towns that lie along the

coast, had come to plunder, not to subdue, and had usually hurried away with what booty they could snatch on the first appearance of any hostile force. The invaders who had marched into the country, threatened the metropolis, and frequently overthrown the reigning dynasty, were not foreign conquerors. They were generally invited to undertake their expeditions by a political party within the country anxious for their success, and were always sure of internal support from one or another of the great political parties which were continually striving for supremacy in the country."

The account given by Capt. Hozier of the exposed state of England at that time, the composition of the Armada, the plans of Philip, and their signal discomfiture, constitutes the most brilliant portion of the book before us:—

"London was an open town, and there was no fortress to check even a detachment of an invading army. On the sea the Englishman was formidable; as a corsair he had plundered every Catholic coast, and pillaged many a Catholic merchantman. But far and wide through Europe it was confidently believed, that if the naval power could be pierced or dodged, and a well-trained array of Spanish legionaries be planted on the English shore, it must sweep away like chaff the raw militia hurried together to defend the metropolis, and in a few days enter London."

What would have been the result had a disembarkation been actually effected, it is, of course, impossible to say, but Capt. Hozier very properly rebukes those patriotic, but ignorant writers who have asserted that our success on land would have been as great as it was at sea. As Capt. Hozier sarcastically observes,— "The examples of well-disciplined and carefully-trained troops being overthrown and crushed by raw levies do not occur so frequently in military history as to warrant our considering them the general rule."

Our forefathers, though they had long been at peace themselves, had carefully followed the progress of military science. Firearms had been adopted, and during the eight years preceding the attack "the musters" had been partially trained to their use. Thousands of Englishmen had visited continental theatres of war, and in the service of foreigners had gained some skill and experience. Ireland had been an excellent school for minor operations, and "the youth of the coasts were full well accustomed to savage contests with Catholic privateers or foreign fishermen." Feudal armies were institutions of the past as regarded foreign war, but the doctrine, now practically ignored, that every man is bound to bear arms and to undergo training in their use for the defence of his native country was in full force. The militia had already received a certain development. In the reign of Edward the Sixth, lieutenants of counties had been appointed, and their functions were to make periodical musters, and to ascertain that the arms were serviceable. These duties had been neglected till, in 1586, the peril seemed imminent. Then directions for musters of men and arms were issued. More detailed instructions were sent out in the following year. The "musters" were directed to be completed, fully accoutred, and ready to march at a moment's notice. The posts and methods of fortifying them were detailed, and the fords and roads which would facilitate concentration were ordered to be prepared, and commands given to barricade certain points for the purpose of checking the advance of invaders. In every shire pioneers for the

construction of earthworks were to be raised; beacons, the firing of which was to be a summons to a certain number of the militia to concentrate at given points, were to be prepared; "every market town was required to provide a mounted postman, every parish a foot-post, to carry information of the enemy's approach, and the towns and counties were bound to provide adequate stores of clothing, ammunition, and necessaries." Little fault is to be found with these arrangements for mobilization and concentration. Indeed, in this respect we might learn a lesson from our ancestors. The quality of the troops was, however, poor. Of organization there was little, while the men, though armed with a new weapon, were almost untrained, and even on the eve of the appearance of the Armada in the Channel, it was with difficulty that in some districts fifteen days' drill could be enforced. Bad as was the infantry, the cavalry was still worse. The knight had disappeared, and as to the horsemen who took his place,—

"They were scraped together by the contributions of justices, ecclesiastics, and country gentlemen, mounted on animals, which ranged through all the varieties of unimproved horseflesh, from the New Forest pony to the shaggy drove raised on the marshes of Lincolnshire. This cavalry must have been wholly unsuited to act in masses, or to have even formed in order of battle. . . . Only about one tenth of the total forces was armed with lances, . . . the remainder, equipped either with petronels or pistolets, seem to have been only expected to perform the duties of light cavalry, and in this capacity a knowledge of locality might have made each band valuable as long as its action was confined to its own shire."

Surely, though in a lesser degree, some of the above remarks are applicable to the yeomanry at the present time.

The total force of the musters amounted to 133,000 men; but, owing to the importance, indeed with such troops the necessity, of retaining the men of each shire to guard their own homes, till it was known where the storm would break, only a comparatively small number could have been collected to fight the first battle with the invader. There was a central force of 30,000 men, under Lord Leicester, assembled at Tilbury Fort; "but," says the author, "had the Spaniards landed on the coasts of Essex, Kent, or Sussex, the most rapid forced marches could hardly have brought more than 20,000 additional men to join with it for the decisive battle in front of London." Now the Spaniards purposed to invade England with 50,000 regular troops.

The next serious attempt at invasion, made in 1688 by the Prince of Orange, being only in aid of a movement within the kingdom, cannot be considered a purely foreign invasion. In 1690, William and almost the whole of the British army being in Ireland engaged in defeating the efforts of James to regain the crown, Louis XIV. prepared to make a bold stroke to restore the Stuart dynasty. The Comte de Tourville, with sixty-eight sail of the line and twenty-eight fire-ships, was to cover the passage of a body of 10,000 troops assembled at Brest, and a large flotilla of galleys was prepared to facilitate the disembarkation. Besides the troops collected at Brest, 30,000 French soldiers were assembled near Dunkirk. Nothing seemed likely to prevent an invasion, for, after Torrington's defeat, the French had the com-

mand of the Channel. To oppose it were only 10,000 regular troops, chiefly recruits, and the militia, which had been much neglected, was almost untrained, and commanded by country gentlemen utterly unacquainted with the art of war. The country was in an agony of alarm, but "as usual, the spirit of the English people was roused by the imminence of the danger, though, had the enemy been a little more bold, the rousing would have come too late." London offered 100,000, and the Lord Mayor stated that 10,000 Londoners were ready to march at a moment's notice. The City also offered to raise, at its own cost, six regiments of infantry, a regiment of horse, and 1,000 dragoons. From other parts of the kingdom came promises of men, and the fleet was refitted with all speed. Nothing, however, could have saved the country had the enemy been a little bolder. De Tourville, instead of embarking the 30,000 men at Dunkirk, proceeded to Brest, to bring over the 10,000 men above mentioned, and, after waiting for a favourable wind and smooth sea, contented himself with burning Teignmouth. Many subsequent designs were formed for the invasion of Great Britain, and some were partially carried out. By none, however, was the conquest of the country seriously threatened till 1759, when preparations were made for landing 54,000 French troops in England. The scheme came to nothing, owing to the defeat of Conflans by Sir Edward Hawke. The last great occasion of peril was when Napoleon laid his plans for transporting across the Channel nearly 150,000 men. He only asked for six hours' command of the Channel, and that he very nearly obtained. Whether or not his genius and the splendid qualities of his troops would have given him the victory over the 238,000 regulars and militia, supported by 417,000 volunteers, there can be no doubt that he would have taxed our resources to the utmost. It must be remembered that it was only owing to Villeneuve's want of nerve that Napoleon had not the command of the Channel for several days.

Capt. Hozier's last chapter indeed is the most instructive of all, and deserves to be published in a separate and cheap form. The introduction of railways and the electric telegraph will, Capt. Hozier thinks, benefit the attack more than the defence, the very essence of success of the former being surprise. Henceforth it will not be necessary to concentrate the armada in any one port, for the rendezvous can be fixed at sea. Steam navigation and the electric telegraph will, our author considers, and we agree with him, afford great facilities for eluding the British home fleet. "There is also more probability that in future the British fleet is more likely to be equalled, or even overpowered, than in times past." As to the militia and volunteers, he denies that they are competent to take part in a campaign even in Surrey, Sussex, or Kent:—

"They are totally unprovided with transport, hospital equipment, reserve of clothing, ammunition, or commissarial arrangements; while the regular army is encumbered with enormous masses of camp equipment, which are utterly unnecessary in a country such as England, where towns and villages for the cantonment of troops are abundant. . . . It would certainly appear that for defensive purposes it is absolutely necessary that the militia and volunteers should have, in the time of peace, a certain organization prepared which

would enable them within a few days, or a few hours even, to take the field."

As regards the regular troops, Capt. Hozier truly asserts that we could scarcely mobilize and place in line of battle even the small Aldershot division, and that when called upon to meet the invading force likely to be employed we should not have time to prepare for battle the auxiliary forces. A battle would probably be fought somewhere between the coast and London; but, if lost, the capital, owing to the want of fortifications, would be immediately occupied, while the consequent fall of Woolwich would paralyze all further resistance. These facts are well known to the authorities and to soldiers. Would that the truth were equally well known to the public.

Journal of a Residence at Vienna and Berlin in the Eventful Winter 1805-6. By the late Henry Reeve, M.D. Published by his Son. (Longmans & Co.)

DR. REEVE was a physician in practice at Norwich in the days when William Taylor and his friends gave to Norwich some literary celebrity. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh; he was a contemporary of Horner and Sydney Smith, and was a student of medicine when the review which his son now edits was started. Dr. Reeve, indeed, was one of the original contributors, and throughout his short life—he died at the age of thirty-five—he showed a liking for books and for science. In 1805, at a time when few Englishmen ventured upon the Continent, Dr. Reeve set off with a Swiss friend, and, after several months of wandering, he found himself at Vienna just as the campaign which ended at Austerlitz began. He stayed in Vienna till February, 1806, and then went by Dresden and Berlin to Hamburg, and so back to England. Mr. Reeve has now published a portion of his father's journal, beginning at Vienna, September 30, 1805, and ending at Harwich, April 14, 1806. The diarist writes in a sensible, rather prosaic way. There is nothing particularly remarkable in what is recorded, and it would perhaps have been better to omit a good deal even of the part that is published. The most interesting passages are the accounts of Haydn and Napoleon. Of the former Dr. Reeve writes:—

"He lives in a small house in the suburbs of Vienna at *Comptendorf* (sic). I sent up my name and mentioned being a friend of Mr. G. Thomson's at Edinburgh, that we might have some medium of connexion and something to talk about. He received me very civilly; he calls himself a very old man of seventy-five, but he has not at all the look of so many years. He has some of the infirmities of age; his head and his chest trouble him, and at present he is unwell, his nerves are so weak that he can do nothing. He cannot compose or write, which he finds very hard, and he is ordered not to make any such exertion by his physician. He speaks a little English, and about as much French and Italian, besides German. So we made a compromise; I spoke French, German, and English, and he spoke German. We managed to understand each other very well, and we talked a great deal in half an hour. He spoke with rapture of England; said he had been there twice, the last time in 1790, and had composed a great deal of his music while in London, amidst good eating and drinking. He related an anecdote of his dining in company with Mrs. Billington, at some house where there was a picture of her hanging in the room, representing her listening to an

angel—the angel had complained English composition said he Thomas well enough was the him, in of music some the con dark, a little powder glad to

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angel singing; Haydn said it ought to be reversed—she ought to have been drawn singing and the angel listening to her; he got a kiss for this elegant compliment. Salomon was his interpreter in England. He spoke of the delight he took in composing symphonies for the Scotch songs, and said he should write music for some words Mr. Thomson sent to him lately, as soon as he was well enough to do anything. His last great work was the Oratorio of the Four Seasons. I thanked him, in the name of Great Britain and all lovers of music, for the pleasure he had afforded us by some of his fine compositions. His figure is about the common size, rather short in stature, his eyes dark, aquiline nose, and brown complexion, marked a little by the small-pox; he wears a nicely-powdered tail wig; he was in excellent spirits, very glad to see me, and requested me to repeat my visit."

The French troops on their entry into Vienna behaved well, but nothing remarkable is recorded. The news of Trafalgar arrived on the 23rd of November:

"Heard of a naval engagement before Cadiz, said to be a desperate affair. Several admirals wounded. Nelson is reported to be killed. We guessed on which side victory was declared because no notice is taken of it in the bulletins and newspapers. In the *Vienna (sic) Zeitung* this evening several long paragraphs appeared against the English Government, repeating the stale story of corruption and national bankruptcy."

Napoleon Dr. Reeve saw after Austerlitz:

"I went to the chapel at Schönbrunn with Mr. Gräzenstein, and I had a complete view of him at mass. He was alone in the emperor's Tribune on one side of the altar on high, his pages and attendants in adjoining seats. His countenance struck me as very remarkable, fuller, broader, and fatter than I had expected to have seen it, and his person stouter and older than usually represented. He has the usual marks of the sanguine melancholic temperament, dark hair, small dark eyes, rather fixed than animated, and a very piercing countenance; the forehead high, nose somewhat Grecian rather than aquiline, and cheek-bones and chin rather prominent; his physiognomy is striking, and there is a deal of character displayed in his countenance. His hair is cut short like the present mode. He was simply dressed in the regiments of the guards or chasseurs à cheval, very dark green with red collar with gold epaulets, and a small star on his left side. After chapel he reviewed the Imperial and Royal Guards and an immense train of artillery. He came out of the palace, accompanied by four pages in scarlet and gold, eight servants in green and gold liveries, and many generals, officers, and attendants. Four grooms held a fine grey horse which he mounted, and every person uncovered. He galloped up to the line, and then passed slowly along. His profile is very different from the front view of his face, and to me appeared more unfavourable; he sits badly on horseback, stooping, and is distinguished by the great simplicity of his dress—a simple small cocked hat without any lace, while his attendants are all glitter and gold. The pomps and equipage of the army is (*sic*) certainly great beyond all conception. The different regiments of guards are superb troops, consisting of eight or ten squadrons, the greater part of them mounted upon fine black horses, which seem to betray their birth and breed at Hanover! The Mameluke guard of about fifty or sixty men produces a striking effect; it attended General Berthier to-day."

Of the French army he says:

"Never was a country so completely subdued, never was a conqueror who used his victory and triumph with such moderation; never did a numerous and victorious army behave with more forbearance and moderation. Some excesses and irregularities in the country could not be prevented, among such an infinite number of *traineurs*, but these were punished severely, and the conduct of officers and men in Vienna deserves all praise. Mildness, gentleness, and affability and activity

are the general characters; that excessive gaiety and vivacity, so much talked of, did not appear in any degree; great good humour among all ranks but no frivolity. It is said that part of the national character of the French is lost since the revolution; it might easily be lost with advantage. The common soldiers are affable and amiable, most of them very intelligent, and as a body superior to the officers, their active and enterprising character strongly portrayed in their countenances when compared with the *dummheit* of the modern Scythians."

Dr. Reeve is, on the whole, unjust to the Germans. As the editor notices, when Schiller had hardly been in his grave six months, and Goethe was in his prime, he writes of the Vienna theatre:

"There seems to be nothing very original in Germany of any sort or kind, and the fashion of borrowing from others prevents the habit, as it sets aside the necessity, of thinking or inventing anything themselves."

At Berlin, Dr. Reeve met Humboldt, "a plain-looking man, about thirty years of age, quick and lively in his manner, without any pretensions," and went to a lecture of Fichte's, which, of course, he did not appreciate:

"This professor is a disciple of Kant, but he has pushed his speculations much further than his master, and is considered the profoundest philosopher and the greatest genius that ever lived. In the summer he lectures at the University of Erlangen, and in winter gives a course of lectures here, one every Sunday noon, for which subscriptions are received, or anybody may enter by paying a dollar. About 120 persons were present, to hear what?—to hear a little costive fellow expound and pronounce words without meaning and old truisms, with all the pomp and solemnity of a new discovery. As far as we could understand anything of this discourse (and three of us puzzled our brains to make out anything like sense), it was to show the nature and essence of our absolute existence and to prove that God was love. The nonsense was incomprehensible, and it was a matter almost incredible how such a man should have so many hearers, some of them very sensible men; some ladies were present."

The editor, who might have revised the proofsheets more carefully, has appended sundry footnotes. In one of them he says that General Möllendorff "died very shortly after Dr. Reeve saw him, and I think did not live to witness the catastrophe of Jena." This is quite wrong. Möllendorff took part in the campaign, and being wounded and taken prisoner, was treated with the greatest courtesy by Napoleon, who released him, and presented him with the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour. In fact, Möllendorff survived to see the downfall of the Empire. He did not die till 1816.

Les Poésies de Catulle Mendès. (Paris, Sandoz & Fischbacher.)

M. VICTOR HUGO has outlived most of the comrades who made the successive steps in his dramatic career a series of battle-fields, on which the great conflict of the old and the new, the artificial and the real, used to be fought. Sainte-Beuve, De Vigny, De Musset, Gautier, are *soleils couchés* amid a host of lesser luminaries, while behind them, in what is now a hazy distance, looms the indistinct battalion of those *chevaliers d'Hernani*, some of whom M. Claretie has vainly endeavoured to resuscitate in 'Les Oubliés et les Dédaignés,' soldiers who, indeed, fought well, but perished too early. Amongst these there is even the dim figure of an earlier leader, a sort of Apol-

lonius of Tyana of Romanticism, Pétrus Borel, "le lycanthrope," a truly enigmatic personage, who ended his days unromantically in Barbary. The present poetical generation in France consists, however, of very different elements. De Banville continues to pour forth lofty railleries, and Leconte de Lisle from time to time adds another pillar to his majestic edifice of Pantheism, but they belong to a later or second period; and, there has grown up a new group of poets, who, though all young, have each at this day a clearly-defined poetical individuality. M. Catulle Mendès is so prominent a figure in this group, having associated himself from the first with its collective existence as a sort of second "Pleiade," that it may be as well to glance at his career. It was to M. Mendès that, in 1861, the happy idea occurred of drawing together into one band the youthful writers who were already sounding an independent note in various quarters. He met with congenial spirits in the late Albert Glatigny, the gifted young poet and comedian, and M. Villiers de l'Isle Adam, and the plan was soon carried out. For some time in *La Revue Fantaisiste*, to which the *maitres* then living cordially contributed, and later, under the designation of 'Le Parnasse Contemporain,' in a volume of original poetry jointly composed, most of the new singers publicly proclaimed their union, under the editorship of M. Catulle Mendès. That this plan was not unfavourable to individual talent, the works of MM. Coppée, Sully-Prudhomme, &c., have from time to time shown us; and although, its purpose attained, the association is now, we believe, practically obsolete, it is, perhaps, impossible to estimate how beneficial such an open confession of fraternity may have been to each member of the band.

When Théophile Gautier wrote his report upon the progress of poetry in France since the year 1830, M. Catulle Mendès was already a distinguished figure, and had passed through a first intellectual crisis, indicated by a total change of style and subject, viz., from the *laissez aller* of certain earlier verses, with a not unnatural touch of De Musset in them, to the sustained and concentrated utterance befitting such themes as 'Yami et Yama,' 'Kamadéva,' 'Le Mystère du Lotus,' and others drawn from more or less unexplored fields of mythology or mysticism—a world in which M. Leconte de Lisle was so far the sole pioneer. In the volume before us, the poems of these and subsequent phases, either published separately or scattered in journals, are presented in a classified form, the early *recueil*, 'Philomela,' though relegated to the end of the book as the least representative, being retained, with the exception of a few pieces, chiefly, as the author tells us, on account of its date. We are glad to observe that, in his later devotion to epic or mythological themes, the poet has not neglected the lyrical vein in which his first efforts were couched, taking it up again in the 'Sérénades' with a crispness of touch and directness of tone which achieve marked success. In the divisions entitled "Intermède" and "Soirs Moroses," composed of pieces written at a more recent period, there are a number of short poems of perfect originality both in thought and manner, the last-named collection being characterized by a melancholy, not personal, but rather the

result of profound meditation on the metaphysics of feeling and destiny.

In the "Contes Épiques," a series of semi-dramatic narrations, M. Mendès, as it were, preludes successively on all the strings of his lyre, giving us first a glimpse of the fall of the rebel angels, the creation of Adam, the loves of angels with the daughters of earth, &c., and then a glowing page about the infancy of Krishna; after which we are carried along by the war-cry of Penthesilea until we see her biting the dust:—

*En jetant au vainqueur beau comme une guerrière
Un regard moins chargé de haine que d'amour.*

Further on we learn, in a striking poem, the real fate of 'La Femme Adultère,' who, returning, full of faith in Christ's acquittal, to her husband, receives from his hand the punishment which the law was about to inflict upon her. Then we have a legendary story of the infancy of Attila, several scenes in the career of Jesus, not in the gospel narratives, and other subjects taken from different countries and theologies. As we turn over these varied pages, we are arrested particularly by the story of 'Les Deux Évêques.' Standing over his deceased predecessor, whose corpse is laid out in magnificent state for the final ceremony, the newly appointed bishop harangues the congregation upon the exalted degree in which his late brother possessed all the cardinal virtues, and the certainty of his reception at the throne of Grace, when he is confounded by the exclamation of the dead bishop: "Tu mens, je suis damné." In all these pieces, although we do not yet gain any complete view of the multiform personality of the poet, such as a general survey of his entire work will enable the reader to take, there are a vigour and directness which owe intrinsically nothing to the manner of any contemporary, and be it said at once, as applicable alike to all the contents of the book, an absolute mastery of verse as an instrument. To this Théophile Gautier long since bore testimony; and as we approach the section called "Pagode," which appeared in 'Le Parnasse,' in 1866, we willingly avail ourselves of his own words with respect to 'Le Mystère du Lotus,' a poem which certainly, as he says, "ne brille pas par la clarté"; mais souvent l'obscurité des choses jette de l'ombre sur les mots, et l'on ne saurait que louer la manière savante dont se déroulent les tercets de cette pièce dans leur mouvement régulier, comme les vagues de la mer d'Amrita, où flotte Purusha sur un lit dont le lit est formé par les mille têtes du serpent Cécha, rêveur et regardant sortir de son nombril le lotus mystique." The poet goes on to question the capabilities of French poetry for bearing any extensive implantation of the colossal growths of Indian mythology: a point which M. Leconte de Lisle has almost settled in the affirmative.

In 1871, M. Mendès published separately a rather long work, 'Hespérus.' Had his previous achievements been insufficient, that poem alone must have given him high rank amongst living poets. Its dominant idea belongs to a refined modern mysticism more than to any of the religious systems in which the author is so well versed, but most of his characteristics are brought into play.

'Le Soleil de Minuit,' his latest production, marks in our opinion the highest point yet

attained by M. Mendès. It is cast in dramatic form, but there is a symphonic or pictorial accompaniment. An arctic world, terrible in elemental desolation, forms the stage upon which three human beings go through a sombre tragedy of passion and crime. They seem to be impersonations of the wild forces around them: ice and snow, avalanche and whirlwind, the rugged soil on which they tread, are like dumb parts of their own being, and so completely reflect it that the masterly descriptions of this shifting natural canvas, alternating with the dialogue, almost take the part of a chorus. Snorra, whose husband is old and feeble, finds a more suitable lover in Aagnar, the young and vigorous wolf-hunter, and, straightway disgusted with her lord, commands Aagnar to slay him. An altercation ensues, in which the woman, who previously succumbed to the physical superiority of the man, gains a victory over the feeble resistance of his conscience.—

*AGNAR. Pendant que le vieillard, ton époux et mon hôte,
Éventre du harpon les narvals de la côte,
J'ai vu, des flancs profonds aux cimes des seins durs,
Luire ta neige nue en tes cheveux obscures.
Mais quel penser, semblable aux bêtes de carnage,
Rôde en ton sombre cœur, sous le toit que j'outrage?*

SNORRA. J'ai dressé, pour ce jour le faucon de la mort.

AGNAR. La femme rêve au mal pendant que l'homme dort.

*SNORRA. Attends-tu que le bloc de glace qui surplombe,
Croulant, fasse au vieillard un couvercle de tombe ?
Ou que le bord fangeux qu'on sent trop tard plier
Verse le geyser lui creuse un rapide escalier ?*

AGNAR. Cesse de me tenter, femme aux sombres amores.

SNORRA. Il revient le pêcheur de phoques et de morses,

*Le vieil époux, visqueux d'eau marine, cassé
Sous le fardeau puant du poison dépecé,
Et sa barbe ensaïa, d'huiles rances infecte,
Ma bouche que le sang de tes baisers humecte !
Ah ! le bloc au glacier tient trop ferme pour choir,
Le vieux minuit n'a pas de brouillard assez noir
Pour qu'à des yeux russés le gouffre ouvert s'y cache :
Mais ton bras est robuste, et j'aguise ta hache !*

AGNAR. Grace, il est mon ami.

SNORRA. Frappe, il est mon époux.

AGNAR. Quoi ! tu n'as point pitié ?

*SNORRA. Quoi ! tu n'en point jaloux ?
Chasseur c'est un scrupule où la crainte se mêle,
Que d'épargner le mâle, ayant pris la femelle,
Et tu ne m'aimes point si tu ne le hais pas !*

AGNAR. Je vis dans sa maison.

SNORRA. J'y dors entre ses bras !

AGNAR. Le meurtre laisse au fer une durable rouille.

SNORRA. Homme, saisiss la hache, ou, femme la quenouille !

AGNAR. La tête roulerait, sinistre, aux cheveux blancs.

*SNORRA. Je me suis éveillée un lâche sur les flancs !
Quand passe un jeune ourson, bête à peine poilue,
Ta bravoure se range, et, prudente, salut ;
Et si leur vil troupeau te mordait aux genoux,
Pour en être épargné tu lécherais les loupes !*

AGNAR. Paix ! Le baiser sied mieux que l'injure à tes lèvres.

Snorra concludes this dialogue with the threat:—

Tu ne m'embrasseras qu'avec des bras sanglants.

At the moment when the deed is about to be committed, the midnight sun of the Polar regions begins to rise upon the scene, of which it is the sole witness; its disc, gradually growing and reddening, at length transforms the entire landscape with a lurid glare, as though all nature were stained with the old man's blood. Snorra, listening, hears in the distance:

UNE VOIX lointaine :—Grace !

SNORRA. J'entends son cri !

LA VOIX. Fils, me frapperas-tu ?

SNORRA. Quoi donc ! il parle encore ?

Oh ! je meurs.

*SNORRA. Il s'est tué.
Son chef tombe, ressaute, et roule par secousses,
Lutte, accroche ses poils aux ronces, mord les mousses,
Lapidé d'un torrent de pierres qui le suit,
Et tandis qu'il emporte aux gouffres dans la nuit
La suprême clamure qu'un prompt silence abrège,
Le tronc décapité saigne en haut sur la neige !*

Then she proceeds to congratulate herself on belonging only to her lover:—

*Il vient le nouveau maître :
Il voit ses champs de neige où ses rennes vont patrir,
Il enjambe sa douve, il tire le barreau
De sa porte. Salut, mon Aagnar !—C'est Snorra !*

It is, in fact, the ghost of her husband, Snorra, who comes back and acts in all respects so like the dead man, that his wife thoroughly believes that her joy was premature, and her lover is really a coward. She seeks him in order to reproach him. Aagnar is fleeing full of the horror of his act. In a long and powerful dialogue between the two, he tries to persuade her that the old man has just perished by his hand, but she is not convinced until he actually shows her the sight he himself dares not look upon again. Then Snorra is seized with sudden dread lest the tomb is not after all so sure a prison, and that there may be a posthumous vengeance which she had not counted upon.

Such is a brief outline of this poem. The extracts show sufficiently its dramatic intensity; but what they give no idea of is the lurid splendour in which the whole is presented. Its striking originality consists in the manner in which external nature is made to typify and represent human feeling; in other words, to become an actual element in the working-out of the dramatic purpose. True to their rudimentary condition, the personages, though speaking with passionate energy in the moment of action, do not find expression for any of the innate feelings which surround and result from such action. These are, however, ingeniously suggested by the subtle accessory treatment we have mentioned; notably, for instance, where the full horror of the murderer, only laconically uttered by himself, is brought before us in the picture of a wolf fleeing terrified from the sudden solar glare, digging a burrow in the snow for escape, and starting back on seeing the red orb reflected again in the ice underneath.

In 1866, M. Théodore de Banville, in his exquisite 'Camées Parisiens' drew a pen-and-ink sketch of M. Catulle Mendès, describing a "jeune visage Apollonien." As a portrait accompanies the present edition of his works, readers will be able to judge of the correctness of the "cameo."

Africa Unveiled. By the Rev. Henry Rowley. Map and Illustrations. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

'AFRICA UNVEILED' is an attractive title, but the promise held out by it can hardly be said to have been fulfilled in this volume before us. The introductory chapter, which treats of the geographical features of Africa, is, perhaps, the most unsatisfactory portion of the whole volume. The author, proud, no doubt, of his personal knowledge of a very small portion of that continent, speaks rather contemptuously of "theoretical" geographers: we presume he means "scientific" geographers, as distinguished from explorers or describers of

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countries. One of the most "confident and imaginative" of these objectionable persons is charged by him with having insisted upon the Shire proceeding from Lake Shirwa, long after it had been established that it was the outlet of Lake Nyassa. We have not the least idea to whom he alludes, but we know this, that, in matters geographical, the author, living, as he does, in so frail a glass-house, is the last man who ought to cast stones at others. If he had supplemented his personal experience by a careful study of what has been written on Africa, or if he had deigned even to peruse attentively a good compendium of geography, he might certainly have produced a better book. What is to be thought of a writer who talks about the Sahara as a vast sea of sand stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Nile, and occupying an area of 2,000,000 square miles. How carelessly must he have read Dr. Schweinfurth's book, when he holds out an expectation that a further exploration of the Niam-Niam countries may lead to the discovery of other streams contributory to the waters of the Nile. The gist of Schweinfurth's discoveries consisted in proving conclusively that the Welle, the main stream of the country referred to, flows towards the west, and has no connexion with the Nile whatever. In the face of the vast blanks still disfiguring our maps of Africa, including the one prefixed to this volume, the author does not think that future discoveries "will greatly add to our knowledge of its physical features"! Observe that this was written before the results of Cameron's remarkable journey across the continent became known, that vast portions of Africa have never been trodden by the foot of a European, and that most of our explorers hitherto have not been men of science. If a knowledge of the geology and meteorology of a country are requisite to enable us to boast of being acquainted with its physical features, then, indeed, nearly everything remains to be done in the case of Africa.

Equally unsatisfactory are the general chapters on the different races of Africa. The author thus sums up the results of modern research with respect to the migrations of man:—"Frozen out of Europe, he is thought to have emigrated with his progenitors, the gigantic apes, into the equatorial regions, and that the aboriginal inhabitants of those parts of the world are his lineal descendants."

He very sensibly rejects this theory, and ventures to advance one of his own, "more in harmony with the Scripture record of the distribution of mankind than any other." He derives the Africans from the four sons of Ham. The Cushites settled about the sources of the Nile, and sent forth two streams of human beings, one travelling eastward and laying the foundation of what are now called the Nilotics races; the other westward, now represented by the Nigritian tribes. Mizraim became the progenitor of the ancient Egyptians, now represented by the Copts, who sent a stream of emigrants to the south, from whom descended the Abyssinians, the Gallas, the Somalis, the Massai, the Maganja, and other tribes. The Maganja he considers to bear a remarkable resemblance to the ancient Egyptians, as portrayed on tombs and monuments. Phut is the ancestor of the Berbers. Canaan, the fourth son, drops quietly out of sight. We have certainly no objection to theories, but

should have preferred a classification of the peoples of Africa, based upon modern research. Such a classification the author can hardly be said to have attempted. As far as can be gathered from his volume, he divides the natives of Africa into three great families, viz., Berbers, Nigritian, and Nilotic. The latter includes Niam Niam, Kaffirs, and Hottentots, and perhaps even Gallas and Somalis!

It is satisfactory to turn from this portion of the volume to the author's account of the various forms of government amongst the negroes and Kaffirs, their manners and customs, and religious beliefs. This account is far from comprehensive, but it is thoroughly readable, and is based, to a considerable extent, upon the author's own experience. It could have been wished, indeed, that, instead of attempting to deal with the whole of Africa within the compass of a small volume, the author had confined himself to furnishing us with a monograph on the Maganja, with whom he became intimately acquainted. Such a work would have proved of permanent value, and, if done well, might have taken rank with Munzinger's account of the Bogos. The author's sympathy with the African is evident. He exhibits to us the brighter side of his life, without being blind to its darker phases, and is firmly convinced that the civilization of Africa may be accomplished through Christian missions, judiciously conducted.

The concluding portions of the work contain a sensibly-written chapter on the slave-trade, and a sketch of Christianity in Africa, in which the author, we are glad to find, has done full justice to missionary societies not connected with the Church of England, and even says a good word on behalf of the Roman Catholics at Zanzibar. We should like to see this spirit of toleration put into practice more frequently where missionaries belonging to different denominations labour in the same field.

The Canon of the Bible: its Formation, History, and Fluctuations. By Samuel Davidson, D.D. (H. S. King & Co.)

THE people of this country are slowly but surely becoming convinced of the fact that the authorship and dates of the books of the Old and New Testament are purely literary questions. It is absurd to suppose that any body of men can lay down a law on such subjects, and affirm for all time that such and such books are genuine and such and such spurious. The points must be settled by evidence, the value of which every competent man can estimate for himself. It is especially absurd to suppose that the men of the sixteenth or seventeenth centuries could have settled these points for all time. They were in an eminent degree uncritical in literary matters. They were inclined to accept tradition, without asking how the tradition arose. And they had not the same means for determining these questions which now lie at the command of the modern scholar. What a revolution has taken place in the critical sphere of classical scholarship. Bentley, the greatest of English scholars, gained his laurels in proving that the Epistles of Phalaris were forgeries. Since his day, and partly through his influence, the

authorship of the Homeric poems has been a subject of fruitful discussion, and the traditions of the past have been scattered to the winds. The poems that were ascribed to Orpheus and Musaeus have been utterly discredited. The works of Plato have received rough handling, and many, assigned to him without shadow of doubt by the men of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, have been proved to be spurious. Equal difficulties meet us when we discuss some of the most important works ascribed to Aristotle, such as the Ethics. Even Xenophon's Memorabilia has not escaped the critical knife, and large interpolations have been suspected. The same is the case with the Greek poets; and the later Greek literature is full of difficult critical problems. Even in the case of the Latin poets, where we might expect the tradition surer, scholars have been found to suspect large interpolations. Witness the labours of Gruppe and Lehrs on Horace. If classical literature has been treated in this way, what reason is there why the books of the Old and New Testament should not be submitted to similar investigations? They cannot escape wherever there is a love of truth. They have come down to us in the same manner as the classical books. The inquiries into their authorship and dates must be conducted in the same manner, and we must, in cases where the evidence is not strong, expect divergent opinions from investigators of different temperaments and circumstances. And so it has been. Modern criticism has applied much labour and earnest inquiry to the study of the books of the Old and New Testament. In some cases something like unanimity has been attained in the results; in others, there is wide divergency of opinion. But the results, whatever they are, are slow in reaching the masses even of cultivated men, much more of the less educated classes, and he does an eminently useful service who, in a candid spirit, lays before the public what he deems the most clearly ascertained of these results.

This is what Dr. Davidson has done in his work on the Canon. It was written originally as an article for the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' but, as it was deemed too long, and portions of it therefore omitted, Dr. Davidson has acted wisely in publishing it in its entirety. Such a book was much wanted. Any one who wishes to inform himself of what scholarship has accomplished in this department, can now easily do this in the clear and perspicuous account which Dr. Davidson has given of the history of the Canon. No one is better fitted for the task which he undertook. He has spent his whole life in investigations on the subject matter and history of the books of the Bible. He is acquainted with the most modern works on them. He has conducted all his inquiries in an eminently candid and honest spirit. He has no object to gain by his investigations but the truth, and no object to promote by their publication but the advance of the truth. His opinions are therefore entitled to the most respectful consideration. And the perusal of this little volume will not occupy much time. In a few hours any man may make himself master of the great points which criticism has reached, or thinks it has reached, in regard to the books of the Bible. Dr. Davidson gives only the results of investigation, and mainly

his own results. He does not give the processes by which they are reached. These can be found in his larger works. It is in this way he has economized space. But a rapid survey of all the main results will prove of great use to those who have not hitherto given much attention to the subject, and is profoundly interesting to those who have.

Dr. Davidson's work goes over the entire range of the history of the Canon. He narrates the formation of the Old Testament Canon from its beginning to its close. He expounds the Samaritan and the Alexandrian Canon. He then discusses the number and order of the separate books, and the use of the Old Testament in the early Christian writings. From this he proceeds to describe the formation of the New Testament Canon in the first three centuries. By the end of this period, the New Testament had been fully recognized as inspired, and so, in his next chapter, Dr. Davidson proceeds to narrate the history of the Bible Canon from the fourth century to the Reformation. He ends with a chapter on the Canon in the different confessions, and another on the Canon from Semler to the present time, with reflections on its readjustment.

Perhaps nowhere could one get a more vivid idea of the variety of opinions that have existed at different periods of history in regard to what constitutes the Canon. At first, neither the books of the Old Testament nor the New are regarded as canonical. They are mere literary productions. The problem which the Old Testament books present is an exceedingly difficult one in this light. There are no contemporary documents to witness to the earliest amongst them, and when we first come upon traditions in regard to them, the books must have been in existence for hundreds of years. There is no history of the transmission of the manuscripts. There is no confirmation of texts by quotations in contemporaries, or, indeed, in writers of much later date. We have to solve the problems almost entirely from internal evidence. Dr. Davidson's book is only accidentally taken up with these questions. His book is on the history of the Canon, and the formation of a Canon does not begin till a comparatively late date. But he touches on them because the question of the authorship of a book is often mixed up with that of its canonicity.

"The man," says Dr. Davidson, "who first gave public sanction to a portion of the national literature was Ezra, who laid the foundation of a Canon." He was the final redactor of the Law, to which Dr. Davidson thinks he added. After the Law the Prophetic Books were admitted into the Canon, at the suggestion of Nehemiah. "The third Canon, in which the other books of the Old Testament were included, was not made at once." Dr. Davidson thinks that it was not completed till after the time of Judas Maccabæus. He points out that the canonicity of Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs was still a matter of dispute in 90 A.D., and that both Baruch and Sirach were accepted by some Jews as canonical at a much later date. He also points out that the Alexandrian Canon included the books which are now called the Apocrypha, and that probably the Apostles and Evangelists followed this Canon.

The portion on the New Testament Canon

will be read with deep interest. It is a clear and fair statement of the facts of the case. It is impossible for us to follow Dr. Davidson in his exposition of the subject. His book does not admit of condensation, for it is itself an admirable condensation. But all along its pages we are met with the question, Who formed the Canon? How far were they fitted to form it? And what did they aim at in forming it? To these questions answers are given in Dr. Davidson's book. We content ourselves with one extract:-

"The infancy of the canon was cradled in an uncritical age, and rocked with traditional ease. Conscientious care was not directed from the first to the well-authenticated testimony of eye-witnesses. Of the three fathers who contributed most to its early growth, Irenaeus was credulous and blundering, Tertullian passionate and one-sided, and Clement of Alexandria, imbued with the treasures of Greek wisdom, was mainly occupied with ecclesiastical ethics. Irenaeus argues that the Gospels should be four in number, neither more nor less, because there are four universal winds and four quarters of the world. The Word or Architect gave the Gospel in a four-fold shape."

The work is one which should be in the hands of every reader of the Bible. It deserves wide circulation, and we trust it will be widely circulated. The present time is one in which the cry for a revision of the Canon will become stronger and stronger, and Dr. Davidson's book will tend much to foster this movement and direct it aright.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

We have now before us, complete, Dr. Harkavy's memoir, *Altjüdische Denkmäler aus der Krim*, already mentioned in these columns (No. 2568). It comprises no less than 288 pages, in large quarto, and is divided into two parts: 1. Epigraphs (colophons to be found at the end of the manuscripts); 2. Grabschriften (the tomb-inscriptions). We have before said that Dr. Harkavy has succeeded in proving that both are falsified, some entirely, others only partly so. We see now, on p. 168, that the tomb-inscription of 6 B.C. is not only "brought down to the twelfth century," as we already stated, but turns out to be an entirely modern fabrication. Dr. Harkavy has put together all that is known about early Hebrew paleography, and has traced gradually the various styles of Hebrew epitaphs, and the contractions occurring in them. Thus his work supplies a gap in this subject, which has not been filled up since Dr. Zunz attempted to do so in his remarkable work, 'Zur Geschichte und Literatur,' 1845. Of great importance is the genesis of the so-called Crimean Jewish antiquities, which is given in full detail in Dr. Harkavy's work. Some forty years ago, and so even at present, says the author (p. 200), the Karaites in the Crimea knew little about the history and literature of their sect. In 1839, Firkovitsch himself narrates, Marshal Marmont, in company with Prince Galitzin, visited the Karaite synagogue at Eupatoria, where they were well received. The former inquired in French, which was translated to the Karaite chief in Russian, when and how did the Karaites come to the Crimea? "We were ashamed," says Firkovitsch, "for we could not answer." The Marshal then asked what language they spoke, to which they answered "The Dschagatai" (Tataric dialect). "In that case," observed the Marshal, "you came to the Crimea with the Tatars," to which their chief replied, "No, sir; we have been here since the time of the Genoese, who dwelt here before the Tatars." Of course the Marshal laughed at this childish mistake. This conversation stimulated Firkovitsch to make researches into the history of the Karaites and to prove à tout force that they, and not the Rabbanites, are the early settlers in the Crimea. Here Dr. Harkavy gives all the details of the sub-

sequent discoveries and falsifications step by step. Of course the Rabbanites were accused of professing the false religion, whilst the Karaites believe solely in Scripture, and not in the Talmud. In fact, as is known, the Karaites enjoyed great privileges in Russia, whilst the Rabbanites were treated with tyranny and oppression. And all this for the Talmud, the terrible book which was so often publicly burnt by order of kings and popes, and is still in existence, and much made use of for scientific researches. Dr. Harkavy relates (p. 206) the following episode: "When the Emperor Nicholas visited the Crimea, in 1836, for the first time, the Karaite chief had assisted Prince Woronoff in furnishing the palace for the Emperor's reception in Oriental style, with objects lent by the Sultan. The Emperor was greatly pleased with it, and, of course, with the Karaites. A deputation of Rabbanites Jews, who also speak Tatar, were then introduced to the Emperor, asking him to grant them the same privileges as the Karaites enjoyed, and to exempt them from military service. The Emperor asked the deputation: 'But you believe in the Talmud?' 'Yes, your Majesty,' was the answer. Then they must become soldiers. We understand that an English translation of Prof. Chwolson's memoir on the Crimean tomb-inscriptions is in preparation. We hope the translator will first read Dr. Harkavy's memoir, and thus spare the English public false information.

MR. HENRY DUNN, a thoughtful writer whose religious publications are known to a select circle of readers, is printing extracts from his works (1856-1875) for the use of his private friends. They have the appropriate heading, "Following after Truth"; and might be profitably perused by more than those for whom they are specially intended. The second part is issued.

WE have two Reports of Public Libraries on our table, those of South Shields and Liverpool. Both seem to be prospering. South Shields has wisely started a French class, and the result is an increased demand for French literature.

WE have on our table *A First Greek Reader for Use at Elton*, by Rev. E. Fowle (Longmans)—*Text-Book of Structural and Physiological Botany*, by O. W. Thomé, Translated and Edited by A. W. Bennett, M.A. (Longmans)—*A New Elementary Course of Plane Geometry*, by Dr. R. R. Wormell, M.A. (Murby)—*The Art of Projecting*, by Prof. A. E. Dolbear (Boston, Lee & Shepard)—*Henzgovina*, by W. J. Stillman (Longmans)—*The Story of the Fu-h-Kien Mission*, by E. Stock (Seeley).—*Waifs and Strays from the Far East*, by F. H. Balfour (Triibner)—*The Principles of Punishment*, by E. W. Cox ("Law Times")—*Symbols from Nature*, by F. S. Marriott (Simpkin)—*The Advanced Excelsior Series*, Books IV. and V. (Murby)—*The School Candidates*, by H. Clarke, LLD. (Manchester, Day)—*Kettner's Book of the Table* (Dulau)—*Queen Alcyone*, by Mrs. T. H. Passmore (Stock)—*Life Mariners*, by B. Phillips (Kerby & Endean)—*The Jericho Road* (Routledge)—*Lotty's Visit to Grandmamma*, by Brenda (Shaw)—*Michel Lorio's Cross*, by H. Stretton (King)—*Princess Isle*, by M. Petersen, translated by G. A. Girdlestone (Charing Cross Publishing Company)—*Thankful Blossom*, by Bret Harte (Routledge)—*The Daisy Root*, by Mrs. H. Martin (Sunday School Association)—*True Tales of My Grandmother's Monkeys*, by E. Richards (Dean)—*Touches of Human Love*, by M. E. Tupper (Partridge)—*Horace's Life and Character*, by R. M. Hovenden, B.A. (Macmillan)—*The Poets' Magazine* (Moxon)—*Lochlire, a Poem* (Longmans)—*Love's Labyrinth*, by J. H. Brown (Catty & Dobson)—*The York Diocesan Calendar*, 1877 (Parker)—*Some Difficulties of Belief*, by Rev. T. T. Shore, M.A. (Cassell)—*The Land and the Life; Sketches and Studies in Palestine*, by A. Z. Gray (New York, Randolph & Co.)—*The Martyr Graves of Scotland*, 2nd Series, by Rev. J. H. Thomson (Edinburgh, Johnstone, Hunter & Co.)—*The True Bread of Life, and How to Receive It*, by J. Harrison, D.D. (Asker, Harrison)—*The Gospel in Bohemia*, by E. J.

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Wheatley (Religious Tract Society).—*The Illustrated Polyglot Pilgrim's Progress, in English and French (Stock).*—*The City Temple Pulpit*, by J. Parker, D.D., Vol. I. (Partridge).—*The Life of Our Life*, by H. J. Coleridge, 2 vols. (Burns & Oates).—*Echoes of Spoken Words*, by S. A. Tipple (Low).—*The Reconciliation of Reason and Faith*, by R. E. Molyneux, M.A. (Rivingtons).—*The Life of Christ, a Poem*, by Miss Stapleton (Williams & Norgate).—*God's Chosen Festival*, by G. N. Plunkett (Dublin, Mullany).—*A Commentary on the First Epistle of St. John*, by W. E. Jelf, B.D. (Longmans),—*Aids to the Study of the Books of Samuel*, by E. Hobson, M.A. (Wells Gardner).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Augustine's Works, Vol. 15, translated by P. Holmes and R. E. Wallis, Svo. 10/6 cl. Blew's (W. J.) Altar Service of Second Year of Edward VI. 1/6 cl. Commentary on Epistles and Gospels from Writings of the Fathers, 2 vols. cr. Svo. 15s. cl. Fleming's (Rev. J.) Remarkable Conversions, cr. Svo. 2/ cl. Finzelton's (Archbp.) Spiritual Letters, cr. Svo. 6/ cl. Goldizer's (L.) Mythology among the Hebrews, translated by R. Martineau, Svo. 16/ cl. Huscomb's (F. B.) Sermons, cr. Svo. 10/6 cl. Lange's (J. P.) Commentary on the Book of Chronicles, &c., 21/ cl. Moore's (H.) Charges, Speeches, &c., edit. by his Widow, 7/6 cl. Shute's (R.) Discourse on Truth, cr. Svo. 9/ cl. Vaughan's (Rev. J.) Second Series of Fifty Sermons, cr. Svo. 5/ cl.

Poetry.

Epic of Hades, Books 1, 2, and 3. 1 vol. cr. Svo. 7/6 cl. Warburton's (R. E. E.) Poems, Epigrams, and Sonnets, 7/6 cl.

History and Biography.

Cope's (Sir W. H.) History of the Rifle Brigade, Svo. 24/ cl. Davies's (J.) Historical Records of the 2nd Royal Surrey, or 11th Regiment of Militia, Svo. 21/ cl. Guillois's (F.) History of England, translated by Moy Thomas, Vol. 1, royal Svo. 24/ cl. Martineau's (Harriet) Autobiography, by M. P. Chapman, 3 vols. cr. Svo. 32/ cl. Millinger's (J. B.) Schools of Charles the Great, Svo. 7/6 cl. Reeves's (H.) Journal of a Residence at Vienna and Berlin in the Winter of 1805-6, cr. Svo. 8/6 cl. Shirley's (E. P.) Histories of the County of Monaghan, Part 1, folio, swd. 12/ cl. Thomson's (Rev. J. H.) Martyr Graves of Scotland, 2nd series, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Geography.

Hall's (E. H.) Picturesque Tourist, cr. Svo. 2/ cl. Savage and Civilized Russia, by W. B., Svo. 7/6 cl.

Philology.

Anvar-i-Suhshi, translated by A. N. Wollaston, 4to. 42/ cl. Contopoulos's (N.) Lexicon of Modern Greek-English and English Modern Greek, 2 parts, Svo. 27/ cl. Masson's (G.) Outlines of French Literature, 18mo. 1/6 cl. Meckler's (Major E.) Grammar of the Baloochee Language, 5/ cl.

Science.

Battye's (R. F.) What is Vital Force? Svo. 7/6 cl. Dickinson's (W. H.) Diseases of the Kidney, &c., Pt. 2, 20/ swd. Hobson's (A. H. G.) Amateur Mechanic's Practical Handbook, 12mo. 2/6 cl. Ward's (U.) Flowers and the Plants they Grow on, cr. Svo. 5/ cl. Weisbach's (J.) Manual of the Mechanics of Engineering, translated by E. Coxe, Vol. 1, Svo. 31/6 cl.

General Literature.

Cameron's (Mrs. H. L.) Juliet's Guardian, 3 vols. cr. Svo. 31/6 cl. City of London Directory, 1877, roy. Svo. 10/6 cl. Discourses of Epictetus, translated by G. Long, 12mo. 5/ cl. (Bohn's Classical Library.) Erasmus's (D.) Whole Familiar Colloquies, translated by N. Bailey, Svo. 12/6 cl. Lever's (C.) Arthur O'Leary cr. Svo. 3/6 cl. Lindsay's (W. S.) Manning the Royal Navy, &c., in the Event of War, Svo. 2/6 cl. Lytton's (Lord) Novels, Library Edition, Vol. 1, 'Pelham,' 7/6 cl. Maitland's (E.) England and Islam, cr. Svo. 12/ cl. Our Village Worthies, by Author of 'Leuty Deane,' 12mo. 1/6 cl. Oxford University Calendar, 1877, 12mo. 4/6 cl. Upper Ten Thousand, 1877, cr. Svo. 12/ cl.

AT THE PLAY.

DORA seated at the play
Weeps to see the hero perish,—

Hero of a Dresden day,

Fit for china nymphs to cherish ;
O that Dora's heart would be

Half so soft and warm for me !

When the flaring lights are out
His heroic deeds are over,

Gone his splendid strut and shout,

Gone his raptures of a lover,

While my humdrum heart you'd find

True, though out of sight and mind.

EDMUND W. GOSSE.

MONGOL OR MUGHAL?

Derby House, Eccles.

WILL you give me a little space in which to reply to Major Raverty's characteristic letters, whose peculiar ring and phraseology will be recog-

nized by all who are familiar with his polemical writings for many years past, and whose rash and inconsiderate statements are so peculiarly earmarked as his own. Let me begin with the third paragraph of his first letter, which enshrines the whole controversy. Major Raverty there says,

"There is no difference between Turkish and Mughal names, for the potent reason that Mughal, Tatar and Turkish names are one and the same, both the former being Turks by descent." I confess that such a paragraph perfectly astounds one. That a writer who presumes to sneer at professors, and who speaks in the most contemptuous way about previous authors as Major Raverty does in these letters, and in the notes to the Tabakat-i-Nasir, should be guilty of such an elementary mistake as this is certainly most astonishing. Instead of being the same in origin, the Turks and Mongols are as different as it is well possible. I will venture to say that no two languages in Asia are more distinct in vocabulary and otherwise than Turk and Mongol. Even a cursory examination of the materials furnished by such an elementary work as the 'Asia Polyglotta' would show any tyro this, while ample materials are supplied by the dictionaries of Kowalefski and Vambery for a further examination, but the matter will not bear arguing ; it is admitted by every European writer of any repute, save, may I say, Major Raverty, and if he is prepared to prove the world wrong in the matter, we shall listen with due attention. Meanwhile, the only conclusion one can draw from such a statement is that Major Raverty does not know one word of Mongol, and has not even, apparently, from one admission, ever seen the only native Mongol chronicle which has been made available for western scholars. This being so, what means Major Raverty by his arrogant claims to have abstracted the honey from the original flowers ? He has done nothing of the kind, and, as I shall show presently, has mistaken mere waxen imitations, such as our cottagers use in lieu of flowers, for a real nosegay, and has floundered accordingly. I repudiate altogether Major Raverty's claims to have consulted the sources for the correct pronunciation of Mongol names, as I repudiate on such a question the guides he has followed, which are merely second-hand authorities. On such a question I prefer to follow such authors as Schmidt and Schott, who are everywhere accepted as authorities upon the Mongol language, and who know it thoroughly. On turning to these guides what do we find ? Dr. Schott, in his masterly paper, entitled 'Aelteste Nachrichten von Mongolen und Tataren,' published in the *Transactions of the Berlin Academy*, in 1846, quoting the following remark of Dr. Schmidt as to the etymology of the name Mongol, "Dieser Name stammt von dem Worte Mongher, welches trotzig, unerschrocken bedeutet," adds "mit der Schmidtschen Erklärung bin ich einverstanden ; aber eine andere ist nicht eben ganz ohne Grund. Es giebt nämlich in Mongolischen offenbar zwei Wurzeln Mong : die eine bedeutet reich, üppig, und (wohl zunächst in Folge dessen) trotzig, dreist. Diese ist für sich allein schon Nomen, und als Verbun entspricht monglachi. Die andere Wurzel (vielleicht besser mung) bedeutet Verdüsterung, Verwirrung, Thorheit, Unwissenheit ; so in dem Substantiv Mongchak (bei Kowal-mungchak) in den davon abgeleiteten Verben, und in mongtanichu oder monganichu, das jedoch auch Synonym von monglachi sein kann" (*op. cit.* 5, note 3). The sound *ng* is, in fact, an essential part of the word. It is a sound common in Chinese, Manchu and Mongol, but unknown, I believe, in Japanese, where the name is transcribed Moko or Muko, and is, I believe, unknown, or almost unknown, in Turki. The form Mughal is nothing but a western corruption, and known only to the secondary sources available to Major Raverty, and in following Ssanang Setzen, the Chinese authors, Schott, Schmidt, Erdmann, D'Ohsson, Von Hammer, and others in writing the name Mongol, I am sure I not only followed discreet guides, but those who knew Mongol and did not mistake the dross of Persian writers for the

pure gold of the original tongue of the race, as my audacious critic has done.

The names Khubilai and Jiyaghati I have spelt as Ssanang Setzen spells them ; in regard to Khulagu I have followed Schmidt, who so spells the name both in his notes to Ssanang Setzen and in his controversy with Von Hammer. The latter author, who wrote the history of Khulagu and his successors, actually says in his work on the history of the Ilkhans, "Hulagu, oder, wie die Mongolen den Namen schreiben und sprechen, Chulagu" &c. (*op. cit.* i. 79). The name Ujaitu, I am aware, I have inadvertently spelt Uldsheita once or twice, but as this is corrected in one of my own notes, Major Raverty cannot claim any discovery in the matter. In regard to the name Jingis, I followed the spelling of Erdmann, who has written by far the best life of the great conqueror, and the quarrel is, therefore, with him, and not me. I will candidly admit, however, that now I am convinced that Erdmann was wrong, and that, as Dr. Schott has pointed out to me, in a learned letter I have received from him, the first syllable of the name is Ching, as Ssanang Setzen writes it, and as your reviewer also pointed out, this not because the name is so written in Persian works, but because it is so written in Mongol ; but, as Dr. Schott says, for the same reason the name Juji ought to be written Juchi ; how, then, comes Major Raverty in his fifth paragraph to write Juji, unless he has been misled by his secondary authorities ? Major Raverty has a curiously-worded sentence about the etymology of the name Chingiz and its meaning according to "all Oriental authors," that is, I suppose, all Persian authors, which means very different thing to most people. Here, again, it would have been well if so much dogmatism had been supported by a little more prudence. Let me quote one who was a Mongol scholar, and knew what he was writing about. Schmidt writes thus in criticism of D'Ohsson, who here followed "the Oriental authors" referred to : "Daher ist die von Herrn d'Ohsson, s. 70, gegebene Deutung irrig : Tsching ist zwar ein Mongolisches Adverbium, bedeutet aber nicht 'mächtig,' sondern fest, 'unerschütterlich,' z. B. tsching bischirel, unerschütterliche Glaube, festes Vertrauen" (Ssanang Setzen, 379), so that when Major Raverty makes the second syllable giz or giz he is surely very much astray. Real honey, indeed !

But let me continue. Major Raverty argues that Abulghazi and Haidar were Mongol princes, and, therefore, must have known how to spell the names of their countrymen. This is surely a very misleading statement. It is true they were Mongols by descent, so are the princes of the Uzbegs and of the Kirghiz Kazaks at this day ; but they spoke and wrote Turki just as Timur and Baber did, and probably did not know one word of Mongol. The Mongol element in the armies of Chingiz and his descendants was a very small one, and was speedily swallowed up by the preponderating Turkish element.

Again : Abulghazi's narrative is founded in the earlier part entirely on that of Rashid ud din, and it is Rashid ud din (who is called shortly Rashid by both D'Ohsson and Von Hammer) who is the fountain source among the Persian writers for the origin and traditions of the Mongols. And whence did he derive his information ? Why from the Golden Register, the Altan Defter of the Mongol Khans, and the lips of native Mongols. He had no sources at home, because the Mongols were unknown there before the days of Chingiz Khan. By the way, what does Major Raverty mean by the extraordinary statement that "all the South-Western parts of Asia west of the Sihun were filled with Turks and Tatars long prior to the time of Chingiz Khan's rise." Turks, yes, but Tartars, — one would like, indeed, to have some evidence of their frequent occurrence here before the days of Chingiz. One so particular as Major Raverty is not surely using the word Tartar as it was used in the last century, before the days of Klaproth and Remusat, when it was the fashion to use it as an equivalent of Turk. I know of but one reference to Tartars here at that time, and

I am disposed now, with your reviewer, to question its authority. But to revert to Rashid ud din. He derived his information, I say, from the Mongols themselves, a small tribe who came from the borders of China. Now, while the Persians did not know anything of the Mongols before the days of Chingiz, the Chinese naturally knew a great deal, and not only have we ample details about them in Chinese works, whose honey is far more unadulterated than that of the Persians in this matter, but we probably have the actual Altan Defter itself in a work translated by Palladius for the Peking Mission, of which a translation into English will, I hope, appear before very long. In these Chinese authorities we have the Mongol legends about the origins of their race in their original form. It was these legends, and the notices of the Mongols contained in the great Annals of the Khitans and the Jurchi, that we were called upon to discuss at St. Petersburg, and the question was, I believe, suggested by Prof. Wassilief, and those who know him will smile at the notion of Major Raverty that "the question did not display much knowledge of Oriental authors on the part of the querist."

I was present when an abstract of Major Raverty's paper was read, and I can testify to the astonishment produced there by the reading of a paper which gravely and seriously accepted all the fabulous genealogies of Rashid and Mirkhond in regard to the Mongols. It was as if one of the mythologists of the last century had gravely come from his tomb and defended the ancient genealogies of the Greek heroes and demigods. If Major Raverty, instead of relying on the secondary authorities he is so proud of being able to read in the original, had taken the trouble to trace their information, he would have found that the earlier part of the genealogy as given by Rashid, all the absurdities about the brothers Mogol and Tatar Khan, and their descent from the old patriarchs of Islam, are not to be found in the original sources. These were all additions of his own, added, as was the custom of Persian writers, to give a dignity to their sovereign's descent, and to connect him, if possible, with the old heroes of the Koran. He would have found that they began their pedigree, which in a great portion of its early descent is purely fabulous, with Burtechino, the Blue-grey Wolf, who occurs some distance down in Rashid's list. Major Raverty has been following the example of Bryant. If this be the gold to which he refers, I prefer to have mine refined; but it is not gold at all. He has been misled by his too easy faith in his treacherous guides. I do not know whether the same credulity has led him to make the astounding statement that the descent of Timur from Karachar Noyan is as well ascertained as that of Queen Victoria from James the First, for I have not the evidence on which he speaks before me, but I may say that my dictum in regard to it has been taken from Elliot, the historian of India, who, Major Raverty will allow, is at least equal to himself as an authority, and I believe it reflects, without exception, the opinion of all recent inquirers on the subject.

The statement about the Kallajes being to some extent a mixed race of Turks and Arabs I took from that profound Orientalist D'Ohsson, and I believe it to be largely true, and probably I have as much material by me for illustrating the origin of that difficult tribe as Major Raverty has.

It is true I once have spelt the name Gushluk, Kushluk, on p. 73, by inadvertence, but there can be no mistaking the fact that the same person is meant; but surely there is a Nemesis in these matters. On turning to pages 260 and 261 of the 'Tabakat i Nasiri,' as edited by Major Raverty, we shall find as serious a tangle as is well possible, created by a different spelling of this very name by one of my critic's sources of pure honey. Not only, according to Major Raverty's own statement, are there the variants Kojlak, Koshlak, and Kushlak, but because his author also writes it in one place Kulij Khan, he actually makes another person of him, and argues gravely as to who he can be (note vii. p. 260). Could anything be more

grotesque in the face of Major Raverty's criticism of a mere slip of the pen in my own case.

In regard to the meaning of the words Chaushes and Pehluvans, let me quote my authority, whom Major Raverty will at least respect, namely, D'Ohsson:—"Des Tchaouschs et des Pehluvans, ou bérouts d'armées, avec des flèches rouges" (*op. cit. iii.*, 44). D'Ohsson was a Persian scholar of much wider repute than Major Raverty, and could reach "the real honey," as he understands the term. How, then, such a "lamentable mistake"? for it is his, and not mine.

In regard to the passage about Meru Shabjan, on p. 87, to which exception is taken. Major Raverty might have turned to my correcting note on p. 715, and further, the passage is not mine, but Wolff's.

In writing the name Djihankuschai, I have followed *literatim* the spelling of D'Ohsson in one place where I ought certainly to have transliterated into Jihankushai, and I have also, by mistake, written "conquest" for conqueror.

I believe I have now met every single objection raised by Major Raverty, except a few cases of not spelling the same name always consistently. In the majority of these cases, I have myself corrected the misspelling in the notes, and as I have also made this confession in my Preface, it is not very new; but, seriously, in a work of nearly eight hundred pages of very small type, containing such a mass of names, this is inevitable. It is a failing of every author I know, and Major Raverty himself offends frequently in this very respect; he gives us in one place Kadr, in another Kadir, both forms of a well-known Turkish title. He gives us Anah, Inak, and Igahnak as forms of one name, all of which ought probably to be Sighnak, a well-known town on the lower Jaxartes. These all occur in one note on one page. D'Ohsson is full of such inconsistencies, and when it is remembered that we have to condense and to abstract our materials from a vast range of authors, each with a separate orthography, and dealing with myriads of proper names, it is inevitable. The human memory is necessarily sometimes fallible, and we can only hope to improve our work in subsequent editions.

In conclusion, I think I have a right to object to the arrogant and dogmatic tone adopted by Major Raverty throughout his letters. One who writes on the etymology of Mongol names without knowing that Mongol and Turkish are different languages, and who claims to have access to the original springs when he has only reached certain muddy streams a long way off, and who writes confidently about the fabulous Mogol Khan, and Tartar Khan, should at least be more modest. I am delighted at the efforts he is making to introduce a consistent spelling of Eastern names.

I thank him very much for the admirable work he has given us in the 'Bibliotheca Indica,' namely, the Tabakat i Nasiri, in the notes to which there is compressed a mass of exceedingly valuable matter. One can take many exceptions, as is inevitable in such an extensive work, but I know few which have been done more conscientiously and thoroughly. May I make a suggestion to him? The great work of Rashid ud din has never been made available for students of history. Major Raverty says it is more accessible than I suppose. I only reported the usual opinion that the MSS. are very scarce, very mutilated, and very corrupt. So much so that it is only recently that a beginning has been made in printing the text by M. Berezine at St. Petersburg. Major Raverty would confer an immense favour on those interested in Eastern history by publishing a translation of Rashid. None would do it better, and it is a work sorely needed.

HENRY H. HOWORTH.

OUR CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

Cambridge, Feb. 21, 1877.

THE introduction and second reading of the Universities Bill at such an early period of the session have caused general satisfaction among the residents here; it appears as though the Government were now anxious to get the

question settled, as far, at least, as the present Bill can settle it, in the present session. This will be felt an advantage by almost all, whatever their views on the matter; those who most affect to dread the coming changes are tired of suspense; whilst those who most wish for University and college reforms, though they can hardly hope that the work done by a commission appointed by the present Government will be a final settlement of the question, still have little doubt that changes must be in the right direction, and such as will include what are felt to be most urgent and important reforms. The constitution of the Cambridge Commission has been unchanged, and though in many respects it is far from perfect, it cannot be denied that its members command great respect individually and form a strong body collectively. It is to be regretted on many grounds that the Commissioners are without exception Cambridge men; it would have been an additional safeguard to have had at least one commissioner from outside, who would have been able to look at the questions that arise, uninfluenced by old traditions and associations. A much more serious ground of complaint is, that there is on the Commission no real representative of the younger school of University reformers, a set of men whose views hardly existed at the time of the old Commission, but now form an element in the question which it will be impossible to neglect. One of the most objectionable features in last year's Bill is retained in the present Bill, namely, the proposal to allow each college to appoint three commissioners, who shall assist at the discussion of the affairs of that college, and shall have votes in matters affecting their college. The appointment by each college of representatives to assist the Commissioners in their deliberations would be useful and convenient, but to give such representatives votes is to introduce an uncertain element into the constitution of the Commission, which cannot fail to produce unlooked-for and discordant results. It is probable that several of the principal colleges will, should the Bill pass, voluntarily frame schemes for the alteration of their statutes, and submit them to the Commissioners; in one case, at least—that of Trinity College—a scheme was some years ago, prepared and passed by the society, and has only been prevented from coming into effect by the refusal of the Privy Council to sanction the proposed changes in the view of intended legislation.

The Syndicate appointed to consider the mode of election to the professorships and offices in the University presented their first Report at the close of last term. This Report refers only to the eleven professorships the election to which is in the hands of the Electoral Roll, and to the professorship of music. The Syndicate recommend that the election to each professorship, now in the hands of the Electoral Roll, be entrusted to a board of eight members, to be elected by the Senate, after being nominated, four by the board of studies to which the professorship is attached, and four by the Council of the Senate. It is suggested that one member of each electing board should vacate his seat each year, and that of the eight members two at least shall be neither resident in the University nor officially connected with it; this recommendation is made with a view to the representation of opinion outside the University. It is proposed that the election to the professorship of music should be in hands of a similar board of eight persons, all of whom are to be nominated by the Council of the Senate, there being no board of studies to which this professorship is attached. Although some opposition was manifested at the discussion of this Report in the Arts School, it is probable that these proposals will meet with tolerably general support, the constitution of the Electoral Roll being much disliked by many, and its unfitness to pronounce on the merits of candidates for professorships being obvious to all. These changes cannot, however, be carried into effect without obtaining the sanction of the Queen in Council.

A large number of new buildings are now in progress here; the new hall at Pembroke College is rapidly approaching completion, and, though all who

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knew it must regret the beautiful old hall which has made room for its successor, the new building promises to be both handsome and commodious. The new Master's Lodge at St. Catharine's College, standing just opposite the fine old front of Queens', has just been finished. At Christ's College the new hall is in progress; the site intended for the new Divinity Schools, opposite the gate of St. John's College, has been cleared in preparation for the new building; and further additions are being made to the dreary range of buildings which are still known as the New Museums. The students of the Cavendish College, which was inaugurated by the Chancellor last term, are now for the first time living in the college building, which is, however, but a small portion of the buildings included in the plan.

Among the lectures organized by the Cambridge Association for the Higher Education of Women are lectures by two ladies, both of whom have been students of Newnham Hall for some years. Miss Paley has a class in Political Economy, and Miss Ogle has classes in Botany and in Zoology. The other lectures of the Association, which are attended by more than a hundred ladies, are nearly all delivered by tutors and lecturers of the colleges of the University.

C.

A CONFERENCE OF LIBRARIANS.

As the only English librarian who attended the American Conference held in Philadelphia last autumn, perhaps I may be permitted to offer a few remarks on the proposal made in the *Times* last week for a Conference of Librarians in England. I feel certain that every librarian in the country will recognize the value of such a meeting, and will do all in his power to promote its success. My only fear is that some of the preliminary steps suggested in the *Times* by Mr. Edward B. Nicholson will, if carried out, do much to weaken the movement. At the American Conference the first business transacted was the election of the President and Vice-Presidents. It appears, however, that Mr. Nicholson is desirous to take all this trouble out of the hands of the Conference by electing the officials in advance.

He states that he has written to Mr. J. Winter Jones, of the British Museum, asking whether he will consent to preside over the Conference, and that he has endeavoured to secure the services of other librarians as Vice-Presidents. Mr. Jones and several of the others written to have replied that they are very much at Mr. Nicholson's service—the only gentleman who has seen the absurdity of this cut-and-dried proposal being Mr. Bradshaw, of Cambridge, who, whilst he will be very glad to attend the Conference, declines to be a Vice-President or anything of the kind.

If we are to have a Conference,—and no one would be more delighted to witness such a gathering than myself,—and if it is necessary that a President should be nominated beforehand, there is one man whose claims for such an office are far above those possessed by any other in this country. I refer, of course, to Mr. Edwards, the author of 'Memoirs of Libraries.' It does not appear that Mr. Nicholson has offered even a Vice-Presidency to Mr. Edwards, yet I feel certain that nine out of every ten provincial librarians would vote for his election as President.

At the American Conference Mr. Edwards was quoted as an authority in every branch of library management, and I was assured over and over again that if the author of the 'Memoirs of Libraries' had visited America, he would have been welcomed as the one man in England to whom they were most indebted for his valuable suggestions on library work.

JAMES YATES, Public Librarian, Leeds.

VICTOR HUGO: 'LA SIESTE DE JEANNE.'

Feb. 17, 1877.

If among the treasures and wonders unearthed on the site of Mycenæ by the prosperous devotion and fortunate energy of Dr. Schliemann there had

been found, in place of some ornament wrought of mere material ore, such a far costlier relic as one of those described by the living leader of English poets, in a phrase exquisite enough even for the priceless matter in hand; if the noble and happy labour of the now illustrious German could have been crowned by the discovery of something yet "more golden than very gold," more precious and marvellous than even such old-world miracles of carven metal as indeed have repaid it; if his research had glorified the world by the gift of a fresh addition to our too scanty treasure-house of

jewels five-words-long,

That on the stretched forefinger of all time
Sparkle for ever;

in that yet happier case, we cannot doubt that all who cherish the supreme art of speech transfigured into song would have marked the year 1876 as with a white pebble in the note-book of their memories. And if a jewel of such price was in effect thrown into that year's treasury—as unquestionably it has been—it would seem somewhat less than rational or gracious to take the less heed of it because it bears the image and superscription of no Greek demigod, but of an immortal who has not yet put off mortality; as surely he need not do to establish his claim to godhead by right of godlike glory and by proof of divine beneficence.

In the first week of November, 1876, the *République des Lettres* published a poem of just thirty-eight lines, 'La Sieste de Jeanne,' every word of which, if any speech or memory of man endure so long, will be treasured as tenderly by generations as remote from the writer as now treasure up with thankful wonder and reverence every golden fragment and jewelled spar from the wreck of Simonides or of Sappho. It has all the subtle tenderness, the spiritual fragrance as of a mother or a God, which invests the immortal song of Danaë; and the union of perfect grace with living passion, as it were the suffusion of human flesh and blood with heavenly breath and fire, brings back once again upon our thoughts the name which is above every name in lyric song. There is not one line which could have been written and set where it stands by the hand of any lesser than the greatest among poets. For once even the high priest and even the high priestess of baby-worship who have made their names immortal among our own by this especial and most gracious attribute—even William Blake and Christina Rossetti for once are distanced in the race of child-consecrated song, on their own sweet ground, across their own peculiar field of Paradise. Not even in the pastures that heard his pipe keep time to the 'Song of Innocence,' or on the "wet bird-haunted English lawn" set ringing as from nursery windows at summer sunrise to the faultless joyous music and pealing bird-like laughter of her divine 'Sing-Song,' has there sounded quite such a note as this from the heaven of heavens in which little babies are adored by great poets, the frailest by the most potent of divine and human kind. Shakespeare and Landor each did more than once a good stroke of work in the divine service of young children; it is only out of the strong that such sweetness can come forth; only from the mouths of lions, not dead but living, that such honey can ever be distilled. And above the work in this lovely line of all poets in all time but one, there sits and smiles eternally the adorable baby who helps us for ever to forget all passing perversities of Christianized socialism or bastard Cæsarism which disfigure and diminish the pure proportions and the noble charm of 'Aurora Leigh.' Even the most worshipful children born to art in Florence, and begotten upon stone or canvas by Andrea del Sarto or by Luca della Robbia's very self, must yield to that one the crown of sinless empire and the palm of powerless godhead which attest the natural mystery of their omnipotence; and which haply may help to explain why no accumulated abominations of cruelty and absurdity which inlay the record of its history and incrusted the fabric of its creed can utterly corrode the natal beauty or corrupt the primal charm of a faith

which centres at its opening round the worship of a new-born child.

The most accurate and affectionate description that I ever saw or heard given of a baby's incomparable smile, when graciously pleased to permit with courtesy and accept with kindness the votive touch of a reverential finger on its august little cheek, was given long since in the text accompanying a rich and joyous design of childish revel by Mr. Doyle; in which, if I rightly remember, a baby in arms was contemplating the riotous delights of its elders, fallen indeed from the sovereign state of infancy, but not yet degenerate into the lower life of adults, with that bland and tacit air of a large-minded and godlike tolerance which the devout observer will not fail to have remarked in the aspect of babies when unvexed and unincensed by any cross accident or any human shortcoming on the part of their attendant ministers. Possibly a hand which could paint that inexpressible smile might not fail also of the ability to render in mere words some sense of the ineffable quality which rests upon every line and syllable of this most divine poem. But, as it is, the best of us must be content to accept and absorb the perception of its heavenly beauty in that mood of helpless rapture which trembles between laughter and tears, suspended as it were for one sweet miraculous minute on the edge of a blind delight which divides till it combines them in a passionate confusion of their kinds. There are lines in it—but after all this is but an indirect way of saying that it is a poem by Victor Hugo—which may be taken as tests of the uttermost beauty, the extreme perfection, the supreme capacity and charm, to which the language of men can attain. As this:—

Ses beaux petits pieds nus dont le pas est peu sûr

Dorment :

a verse beyond all comment of articulate praise or thanksgiving. I was not minded to pluck out any petal from this paradisal rose by way of sample; but, having once put hand to it, I must needs take heart to touch yet another leaf of its central and crowning glories.

Donc, à l'heure où les feux du soleil sont calmes,
Quand toute la nature écoute et se recueille,
Vers midi, quand les nids se taisent, quand la feuille
Le plus tremblante oublie un instant de frémir,
Jeanne a cette habitude aimable de dormir.

It might seem as if the Fates could not allow two men capable of such work in one line as that to live together in one time of the world; and that Shelley therefore had to die in his thirtieth year as soon as Hugo had attained his twentieth. I dare cite but one couplet more; for what follows is too ineffably and adorably beautiful to permit another pause before the perfect end:—

On la contemple, on rit, on sent fuir la tristesse,
Et c'est un astre, ayant de plus la pétitesse.

If the last word on so divine a subject could ever be said, it surely might well be none other than this. But with workmen of the very highest order there is no such thing as a final touch, a point at which they like others are compelled to draw bridle, a summit on which even their genius also may abide but while a man takes breath, and halt without a hope or aspiration to pass beyond it. Were it not that the Master has a hundred and a thousand times in his life convinced us (half reluctantly) of this truth, and confuted all possible conceit or surmise on our part that now at least here at last must be the limit of all triumph, beyond all reach or dream or vision of all the lesser sons of men, which could even for him be conceivable; were it not that by this time we should all know better, we might now if ever claim pardon or plead excuse for the vain and hazardous assumption; but in face of the untraversed and unsounded sea of song on whose shore we stand even now expectant of the magic argosies to come, and count the very hours as they lessen which bring us closer to the day when we shall have actually in hand the second issue of the 'Légende des Siècles,' we can but possess our souls in impatience and expect what heaven will send us at our Master's inexhaustible and immortal hand.

A. C. SWINBURNE.

SALE.

THE sale of autographs of celebrated ladies, which took place in Paris on the 10th instant, was a decided success. The amount realized was over 760 $\text{l}.$, the highest sum ever reached in France in a single day's sale of autographs. The principal items sold, for francs, were : Duchesse d'Aiguillon, 1640, letter relating to the lawsuit of Saint-Cyr, then a prisoner at Vincennes, 130. Duchesse de Montausier to Mazarin, 190. Charlotte de Bourbon, 130. Jeanne de Bourbon, 100. Louise de Bourbon, 125. Comtesse de Brégy, 190. Duchesse de Châteauroux, 190. Princesse de Condé, 195 ; the same, 100 ; the same, 120 ; the same, 122 ; the same, 130 ; the same, 190 ; the same, 125. Princesse de Condé (femme du grand Condé), 140. Comtesse de Romorantin, mistress of Henri IV., 225. Diane de Poitiers, 100. Maréchale d'Effiat, mother of Cinq-Mars, to Richelieu, asking for the pardon of his son, 370. Marie-Louise of Nevers, Queen of Poland, 152. Marie de Hautefort, Maréchale de Schomberg, mistress of Louis XIII., 130. Nine letters of Louis XIII., relating to the same, 1,700. Henrietta Maria, Queen of Charles I. of England, 120. Jeanne d'Albret, mother of Henri IV., 125. Three letters of Louis XIII., relating to Louise de Lafayette, his mistress, 960. Princesse de Lamballe, 100. Maréchale de la Meilleraye, 155. Ninon de Lenclos, 100. Duchesse de Lesdiguières, 130. Madame de Maintenon, 305. Marguerite, Reine de Navarre, 180. Marguerite, Queen of Henri IV. (la reine Margot), 100. The Empress Maria Theresa, 100. Marie Louise of Savoy, Queen of Spain, 155. Comtesse de Maure to Richelieu, 325. Duchesse de Rohan, 100. Forty letters of Madame de Pompadour, 4,000. Renée de France, Duchesse de Ferrare, 100. Duchesse de Richelieu, 250. Marquise de Sévigné, 247. Madame de Sévigné, 210. Madame de Staél, 101. Vicomtesse de Turenne, 135. Princesse des Ursins, 255. Mlle. de Vandy, 100, &c.

THE WILL OF PETER THE GREAT.

'THE Will of Peter the Great, an invention of Napoleon I.' is the title of a valuable article in the *Russische Revue*, being an annotated German translation of the pamphlet entitled 'Napoléon I. auteur du Testament de Pierre le Grand,' published in 1863, by Dr. G. Berkholz, Keeper of the Municipal Library in Riga. The French original has probably been seen by few English readers, and no copy of it exists in the British Museum. The German translation will, therefore, prove of great use. The author begins by tracing the history of the Will in question, the first tidings of which were communicated to the world by Lesur, in 1812, in his work, entitled 'Des Progrès de la Puissance Russe, depuis son Origine jusqu'au Commencement du XIX^e Siècle.' That work was composed by him at the time when Napoleon I., preparing for his Russian campaign, wished to make Europe see in Russia a dangerously aggressive power. And it was published "under the immediate superintendence of the French Government," says Sir Robert Wilson, who was present when a great number of copies of Lesur's book were found by the Russian troops, on the 26th of December, 1812, among the baggage abandoned by the French. Lesur did not print the Will *in extenso* : he gave only a *résumé* of it. And he called it not the Will of Peter the Great, but a "plan" or "secret memoir," written by that monarch, and said to exist in the private archives of the Russian Imperial family. But, in 1836, Gaillardet, the joint author with Dumas of the celebrated drama, 'La Tour de Nesle,' published a kind of romance, entitled 'Mémoires du Chevalier d'Eon,' in which the supposed "plan" or "memoir" appeared under the title of the 'Testament laissé par Pierre le Grand à ses Descendants et Successeurs au Trône Moscovite.' That exceedingly dubious personage, the Chevalier d'Eon, whose sex remained a subject of dispute until his corpse was examined, is supposed to have found this Will at Peterhof, during one of his residences at St.

Petersburg. A wider circulation was given to the supposed Will, as printed in Gaillardet's romance, by Léonard Chodzko, who reprinted it in the first number of his work, 'La Pologne Historique,' &c., Paris, 1839. According to him it was drawn up by Peter in 1709, and revised by him in 1724. In 1854, the Will reappeared, with the added information that it was "formulé définitivement par le Chancelier Ostermann," in J. Corréard's 'Carte des Agrandissements de la Russie,' &c. Having thus narrated the literary history of the Will, M. Berkholz proceeds to investigate the question of its authorship, and brings forward various arguments, on the value of which each reader must decide for himself, to prove that the real author of the supposed Will was no other than Napoleon I.

CHRONOLOGY.

MAY I suggest, through the pages of the *Athenæum*, to the enterprising publishers of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' the propriety of their cancelling six or eight pages in the important article under "Chronology," in Vol. V. of the Ninth Edition, recently issued. I have pencilled in my copy, on pp. 733 to 740, nearly a hundred and fifty errors, including omissions of prime importance. The entries of trivial interest may readily give place to their betters, so that by correction and a little transposition the given space need not be increased. The following omissions and errors may be sampled :—

- 1488 First Homer [omitted].
- 1491 Caxton's death [omitted].
- 1497 "di" for "da Gama".
- 1519 Mexico taken by Cortez, Nov. [should be Aug. 13, 1521].
- 1522 First voyage round the world made by a ship of Magellan's squadron [Magellan sailed in 1519, and the Victoria returned in 1522].
- 1527 Discovery of the Bermudas by Juan Bermudaz [should be 1510 or earlier].
- 1538 The great Bible published [should be 1539].
- 1557 The Geneva New Testament in English, divided into verses, published [omitted].
- 1560 The Geneva version of the Bible published [omitted].
- 1568 The Bishops' version of the Bible published [omitted].
- 1562-68 Ribault and the French in Florida [omitted].
- 1591-1616 All Shakspere's first editions of plays and poems omitted, except 'Hamlet,' which is put 1602 instead of 1603.
- 1591 Wynken de Worde carries on Caxton's business after his death [!!!].

Need more be said? The cancels will reach me safely, if placed loosely at the end of one of the forthcoming volumes.

GMB

MR. J. OXFORD.

MR. JOHN OXFORD died on Wednesday night. Mr. Oxford was well known as the author of numerous successful dramatic pieces, and for more than thirty years was dramatic critic of the *Times*. He was also author of numerous translations from the French and German, notably among which are Goethe's 'Wahrheit und Dichtung' and 'Eckermann's Conversations with Goethe,' published in 1850, a work with qualities of style superior to the original. He for some time was a constant contributor to the *Athenæum*. Mr. Oxford was born in 1812, and was originally educated for the bar. The possessor of a clear and acute intellect, a ripe scholar, both as regards ancient and modern literature, thoroughly conversant with French, German, and Spanish, and deeply read in the works which a busy age is apt to neglect, Mr. Oxford might, had he chosen, have claimed a foremost place in criticism. As a dramatic critic, however, he was never just to himself. Excessive kindness of disposition induced such leniency of judgment as was fatal to the value of his verdict. It was his boast that none of those he censured went home disconsolate or despairing on account of anything he had written. Those

who read between the lines of his criticism would probably arrive at an opinion worth consideration. The general public was likely to accept the whole as eloquent and excessive eulogy.

Literary Gossip.

A FAMOUS supposed relic of Shakspere, a carved oak chair, is to be sold on Saturday next, at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge. This chair formerly belonged to Paul Whitehead, who, according to Mr. Bacon, of Fryern Barnet, who served as go-between on the occasion, denied the use of it to Garrick, anxious to have it as his throne at the Stratford Jubilee, in 1769. Mr. Bacon calls Whitehead Poet Laureate; but it was William Whitehead who was Mr. Tennyson's forerunner. After Whitehead's death, it was purchased by Mr. Bacon, and presented to the Rev. T. J. Judkin, at whose decease it was given by his widow to their son-in-law, the late Rev. Walter Field, Vicar of Godmersham, Kent, and Rector of Merstham, Surrey. It was exhibited at the last Centenary Festival.

THE new Treasury scheme, with reference to the salaries of the officials of the British Museum, has at last been laid before the Trustees. Its details cannot yet be given with certainty, but its general tenor may be stated to be somewhat as follows. It is proposed to raise the salaries of the Senior Keepers, after a time, to about 700 $\text{l}.$ a year. The Junior Keepers also will eventually have some slight addition to their now paltry salaries. It is proposed, we believe, to abolish Assistant-Keeperships, and to do away with all distinctions of class among the assistants, who, by means of "duty-pay" may, at the end of many years, find themselves in possession of the magnificent salary of about 550 l . a year. That is to say, the Treasury estimates the value of such a scholar as Prof. Douglas or Dr. Haas, or Mr. Russell Martineau, or the late Mr. George Smith, at about the same figure as it does a second-class clerk in its own office. We hear nothing of any benefit to accrue to the Attendants, a most meritorious and by no means overpaid body of men, to whose aid every frequenter of the Reading Room is deeply indebted.

THE late Mr. Shirley Brooks left a Diary, parts of which will probably be sent to the press.

THE Commemoration Fund of the Rugby School Tercentenary (1867) amounted, in December last, to 22,156 $\text{l}.$ 7s. 10d. The money has been, or is, applied to the enlargement and improvement of the chapel, to new school-rooms, to a library and reading-room, a gymnasium, and a new swimming bath. The contributions have been derived from old and present Rugbeians and their friends, including the past and present masters of the school. Their subscriptions are on a most liberal scale. The present Head Master, Dr. Jex-Blake, after having contributed 300 $\text{l}.$ to the new schools, and other sums to other objects, has presented the new swimming bath, at a cost of 2,500 $\text{l}.$ With such spirit prevailing, well may the motto of the school be "Floreat Rugbeia!"

AT the request of the Eastern Question Association, Mrs. Fawcett has consented to write a pamphlet on the widespread distress existing in the European provinces of Turkey,

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with reference to the necessity of providing adequate means of relief. Sir George Campbell, M.P., has in the press a pamphlet on the recently-published official correspondence on the Eastern Question. A brochure, containing personal recollections of Turkish rule, will also shortly appear from the pen of a Syrian priest.

FOUR students of the Presbyterian Ladies' College at Melbourne, over which Prof. C. H. Pearson presides, have put forth an adaptation of Mr. Tennyson's 'Princess,' in which they take a wholly different view of "Woman's Future" to that which the old-world poet adopted. They convert the Prince by a course of lectures at the Ladies' College, and when, at Commencement, he has read part of his English poem on woman, acknowledging that she—

stands proudly forth,

Greater than man, yet not disdaining him,
Curbing his license with domestic law,
his Head, the Princess, informs him condescendingly that his thesis—

is approved, and what we promised you
Shall be performed. Henceforward, lean on us.
Henceforth thou hast a helper—one that knows
Our interests are one. If man be small,
Half-hearted, sordid, how shall woman grow?
We two will aid them both in serving man;
Will clear away the vain pretence of power
That seems to keep him up, but drags him down;
Will place him somewhat lower, as is meet,
Than the angel of his hearth; yet leave him space
To climb the shining pathway after her.

ROBERT RAIKES, Journalist and Philanthropist: a History of the Origin of Sunday Schools,' is the title of a work by Mr. Alfred Gregory, of Gloucester, which will shortly be issued by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton.

MR. EUGENE SCHUYLER is engaged upon a translation of Mr. Tourguenief's new novel, 'Nov.' or 'Virgin Soil,' which we reviewed last week, and which has much perplexed the Russian Censorship. He also recently completed a translation of Tolstoy's 'Kazaki.'

MR. FURNIVALL'S Introduction to the 'Leopold Shakspere,' which he is editing for Messrs. Cassell, Petter & Galpin, deals with the plays and poems in chronological order. The writer endeavours to bring a fresh element of certainty into that order, by noting the links of subject, incident, character, tone, and phrase, between the plays coming next to one another, so as to prove that Shakspere's works are, as it were, one continuous series from 'Love's Labour's Lost' to 'Henry the Eighth.' And as the plays and poems are arranged in four divisions, so Mr. Furnivall contends that the works of each division fall into smaller groups of plays specially linked together. Thus, in the first group of the first period 'Love's Labour's Lost,' 'The Errors,' and 'The Dream' are connected, by the comedy in all of them turning upon mistaken identity. The later group, of 'Romeo and Juliet,' the 'Venus' and 'Lucrece,' by the passion and richness of fancy in all; the first group of the third period, 'Julius Cæsar,' 'Hamlet,' 'Measure for Measure,' by the unfitness of their hero's nature to bear the burden laid on it, &c. The sonnets are briefly analyzed, and held to be autobiographic and interpretative of the plays. The claims to genuineness of 'Edward the Third' and parts of 'Sir Thomas More' are examined and disallowed. Prof.

Spalding's more mature opinion on the doubtfulness of Shakspere's share in 'The

Two Noble Kinsmen' is preferred to his earlier declaration on the subject. A strong appeal is made for the study of Shakspere's works in chronological order, and the necessity of studying the poems along with the plays, as Chaucer's minor poems are taken with his tales, is insisted on. 'The Leopold Shakspere' will be ready next week.

M. TOURGUENIEF has been publishing a short tale, 'Le Fils du Pope,' in *La République des Lettres*, which has not yet been published in Russia. It is completed in the present number, and is a ghastly story. M. Cladel's new novel, 'Le Tombeau des Lutteurs,' is appearing in the same journal, and a novel by the editor, entitled 'Pierre le Véridique,' has succeeded 'L'Assommoir,' by M. Zola.

A MOST startling realistic "illustration" is contained in the *République des Lettres*. In lieu of two pages of ordinary letter-press, the readers of 'Le Tombeau des Lutteurs' are presented with a flaming vermilion-coloured Circassian, on which are set forth in appropriate language the feats of strength to be performed by the hero of the story, a renowned pugilist. Prices of admission and other minutiae are given, so as to complete the *vraisemblance* of the bill.

FROM a synopsis given by the *Börsenblatt*, the following figures are taken, and are a proof of the activity of the German publishing trade during 1876. The gross total of volumes published was 13,356, as compared with 12,516 for 1875. The *belles lettres*, 1,070; fine arts, 565; cyclopedias, collected works, &c., 347; theology, 1,146; jurisprudence, politics, and statistics, 1,329; medical works, 703; natural sciences, 848; philosophy, 178; schoolbooks, 1,621; books for children, 452; ancient classics, Oriental languages, &c., 500; modern languages and old German literature, 392; history, biography, &c., 687; geography and travels, 296; mathematics and astronomy, 190; military and veterinary works, 339; trade and commerce, 531; railway, mining, nautical, and professional works, 386; domestic economy and gardening, 340; woods and forests, 103; folk-books, 547; freemasonry, 24; maps and charts, 282; and miscellaneous, 472.

A brochure, entitled 'The Catholic Press in Europe in 1877,' has just appeared in Würzburg, and gives the following particulars as to the number of Roman Catholic publications in the German empire: Hesse produces 11, with 75,500 subscribers; Baden, 12, with 37,400; Württemberg, 11, with 42,700; Saxony, 3, with 2,000; Bavaria, 54, with more than 380,000; and Prussia, 144, with at least 500,000 subscribers.

ACCORDING to the *Vasarnap Ujság*, at the commencement of this year 268 periodicals, or an increase of 28 over last year, were appearing in the Magyar tongue. Buda-Pesth maintains 128 of these publications, 139 are issued in provincial towns and cities, and one is published abroad. Only 17 dailies and 26 weeklies are devoted to politics, non-political local news filling the pages of the majority. Hungary supports also 146 foreign journals, 85 of which are in German, 42 in Slavonic, 13 in Romanian, 4 in Italian, 1 in Hebrew, and 1 in French.

THE Manx Society have in preparation a volume of Church Notes, which will comprise

a tabular statement referring to the different bishops, archdeacons, rectors, &c., who have served in the several parishes in the Isle of Man.

THE Dutch purpose holding an International Historical Exhibition this year at Amsterdam, during the months of June, July, and August. One of the groups of exhibited articles will display the graphic art in five important divisions, viz., typography, lithography, photography, foundry, and wood engraving. A special space has been set apart for the typographical treasures of Holland, and will contain some of the earliest specimens of the art in that country.

MR. MOODY, the revivalist, is producing in America a collection of his pulpit illustrations, under the title of 'Arrows and Anecdotes.'

SEÑOR J. B. ALBERDI, formerly Minister in London of the Argentine Republic, wrote, some time ago, a volume on 'The Life and Labours of William Wheelwright in South Africa.' This book has been translated from the Spanish, and is announced for publication in Boston, with an Introduction by Mr. Caleb Cushing.

THE granddaughter of Daniel Webster, Mrs. James Geddes Day, is writing her reminiscences of the home life of that eminent American statesman. Mr. Webster was an ardent naturalist and sportsman, and, up to his death, in 1852, spent much of his time at Marshfield, on the shores of Massachusetts Bay, where he occupied himself in country pursuits, frequently following the plough over his own land.

THE Austrian poet, Mosenthal, has died quite suddenly at Vienna. He was the author of several successful plays, of which 'Deborah' is familiar to English playgoers under the name of 'Leah.'

THE students and professors of Kiel University will scarcely feel flattered by an illustration which appears in a work entitled 'Das Buch für Alle,' now publishing in Stuttgart. Page 268 of Part XII. contains two illustrations, divided only by a line; the upper half of the page contains a view of the new University building, and the lower half represents a Savoyard school of bears and monkeys, in which barefooted professors lecture their interesting pupils!

WE are glad to announce that the Arabic Chrestomathy compiled by Profs. B. O. Girgas and Baron Victor von Rosen at St. Petersburg, is now completed. 1. It contains Twenty pieces in prose, of grammatical, geographical, historical, and traditional contents; 2. Poetical pieces by twenty-eight authors. Many of them are taken from MSS. of the British Museum and of various Russian libraries, and others have been collated with MSS. The poetical pieces are provided with vowel points. The Russian Preface gives an account of the MSS. and printed books utilized for the work. Only five years ago, Prof. Wright, of Cambridge, published a similar work for use of English students. What is wanted now is dictionaries for both Chrestomathies. The Russian editors will, unluckily, be obliged to compose theirs in Russian, which at present, as least, can be of little use to English, German, and French students.

JOHNSON'S 'New American Cyclopaedia' is at length completed. Amongst the English

writers in the Cyclopædia on learned subjects, chiefly Oriental, we may mention the names of Dr. Birch, Prof. Palmer (Persian and Arabic Language and Literature), Mr. Vaux (Numismatology, &c.), Dr. Eggeling (Sanskrit), Mr. Caldwell (Indian Literature, Prâkrit and Dravidian), Prof. Dawson (Hindû Mythology, &c.), and Mr. Rhys Davids (Pâli Literature). The Cyclopædia is edited by Dr. Barnard, the President of Columbia College, New York.

MR. ELLIOT STOCK is about to print a facsimile of Caxton's 'Dictes and Sayings of the Philosophers,' with an introduction by Mr. William Blades. The reproduction is not to be in typography, but in photozincography. The celebration of Caxton's anniversary would be a fitting occasion for such publication. The date of the first edition by Caxton being 1477, no book could have been better selected.

ALTHOUGH the 'Handbook of Newcastle-upon-Tyne,' by the well-known antiquary, Dr. Collingwood Bruce, brought out on the eve of the meeting of the British Association in 1863, was intended only as a guide to the visitor, it has served also as a history, and to some extent supplies a void in Newcastle local literature. The first historian of Newcastle was William Grey, whose 'Chorographia,' a thin volume of thirty-four pages in small quarto, appeared in the year 1649. In the succeeding century, two other histories of the town were written. The small folio of the Rev. H. Bourne was published in 1736, and, more than fifty years later, the two quarto volumes of the Rev. John Brand. Dr. Collingwood Bruce has now undertaken to write a history of the town, and no one could be better fitted for the task. The first volume will be issued to subscribers early next year, and the second volume the year following.

MESSRS. BELL are about to publish a small volume on the Emperor Charlemagne. It will embody a translation of Egihard's Life, with a few explanatory chapters and notes by the Rev. William Glaister.

MR. E. ROSE writes :

" May I ask you to correct a mistake in your report of my paper read before the New Shakspeare Society last week? I maintain that Shakspeare terminated the third act of 'Hamlet' with the scene marked in modern editions, sc. iii. act 4, not sc. ii. act 4, as you have made me say."

ANTICIPATING all French biographers, M. Paul Lindau has written, under the title of 'Alfred de Musset,' a memoir of the French lyric poet. It is a difficult task for a German to treat with fairness and impartiality the man who replied to Becker's celebrated song,—

Nous l'avons eu votre Rhin allemand!

But M. Lindau has accomplished this task in an unexceptionable manner. M. Paul de Musset is preparing for the press a more complete biography of his illustrious brother, which is to contain unpublished fragments of poetry, and the beginning of a novel in prose, entitled 'Le Poète Déchu.' The poet did not like to write what he called "de la vile prose," although he left us some gems of the kind, as 'La Confession,' 'Le Caprice,' 'Mimi Pinson,' &c.

MR. W. R. S. RALSTON gave the first of two lectures 'On English Nursery Tales, their Origin and Meaning,' last Thursday, at the

London Institution. The second lecture will be given next Thursday, March 1.

DEAN STANLEY is to distribute the prizes at the Quebec Institute next Monday. This excellent institution is prospering, thanks greatly to its energetic Secretary, Mr. Pope, and its classes are well attended. Its main want is a good library. The appeal made by Lord Lichfield two years ago has unfortunately not been responded to.

CAPT. ABNEY writes to us to say that the photographs in his work on Thebes, reviewed by us last week, are not by the silver process as we supposed, but by the Woodburytype process. He believes they will last six generations or so.

SCIENCE

Science Papers, chiefly Pharmacological and Botanical. By Daniel Hanbury, F.R.S., &c. Edited, with Memoir, by Joseph Ince, F.L.S. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE late Mr. Hanbury's friends have done rightly in reprinting in one volume his various contributions to the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, and other scientific publications. It is quite true that the latest results of his life-long researches in the history and chemistry of drugs are given in the *Pharmacographia*, but, besides that it is without illustrations, the student of pharmacy will always set a special value on Hanbury's original papers, and it is a convenience to have them thus reproduced in one volume, with all their admirable illustrations. We reviewed the *Pharmacographia* so recently that it is unnecessary to offer any detailed criticism on the scientific portion of this volume, which will always hold its place beside Pereira's great work on 'Materia Medica,' in the library—not only of the pharmacologist and physician, but of every student of the history of trade and commerce. We will rather give a few particulars of Hanbury's life from the memoir by Mr. J. Ince, with which the volume opens, and the obituary notice by Flückiger at the end. Hanbury was born in 1825, and died in 1875, in his fiftieth year. His family, which belonged to the Society of Friends, had been long connected with the old pharmacy of Allen, Hanburys & Barry, at the bottom of Fenchurch Street, in the City; and it was William Allen's prestige and the example of John Barry—a man of infinite neatness and exactness in chemical experiment—that chiefly influenced young Daniel Hanbury's future, when, at the age of sixteen, he began his practical studies in his father's firm. His pursuits early brought him into connexion with Pereira, and a warm friendship sprang up between them, which continued till the death of the great professor. Hanbury's first contribution to the *Pharmaceutical Journal* was in January, 1850, on 'Turnsole'; and his last, or sixty-first, was in 1875, on 'Cinchona, or Chinchona,' which was a sort of protest in favour of retaining the historical but corrupted spelling of Chinchona, in opposition to Mr. Clements Markham's advocacy of a return to the correct spelling. He published besides numerous papers in other scientific journals. For twelve years (1860-1872) he was on the Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society, and it was very much owing to his efforts that the revision of a duly authorized

Pharmacopœia of India was undertaken. His correspondence extended to all parts of the world: with Guibert, "the dry little lecturer in the Rue d'Arbalète . . . who had materia medica at his fingers' ends"; and Señor Joaquim Correa de Mello, of Brazil; Mooedeen Sheriff, of Madras; Mr. Milne, of Old Calabar; Flückiger, of Berne; Buchner, of Munich; and Col. Yule, then at Palermo. In the pursuit of his earnest studies he often visited the Continent, travelling in the Auvergne and Bohemia—where he spent a pleasant summer vacation with Von Martius—and Sicily. In 1854 he went to Smyrna to collect information about scammony, and it was the dream of his life to visit India, the people of which, as were the ancient Egyptians, are a nation of druggists, to investigate on the spot the number of obscure questions connected with the botany and commerce of the drugs and other vegetable products of that country.

"I incline to the opinion," writes Prof. Drägendorff, of Dorpat, "that our science is confined to no single nationality, and that, consequently, he who labours for the advancement of pharmaceutical science acquires an international importance. Just such an eminent international position, I think, had Hanbury taken. An Englishman by birth, he lived and worked for all civilized people." This was written with regard to the proposal that a gold medal, bearing the name of Daniel Hanbury, should be awarded annually as the highest distinction pharmacy can bestow. It is to be hoped that the proposal has since been carried out.

Prof. Flückiger writes of him :—

"No ignoble thought ever darkened his soul; and as his writings grasped the kernel of the matter, so in life he showed himself simple, confiding, and without one ingredient of unnecessary or false display. . . . All the charm of truth and purity dwelt in his refined, engaging appearance. His exterior, including the expressive firmness and neatness of his handwriting, corresponded harmoniously with the nobility of his soul. He made very high demands on himself in the fulfilment of his duty and in his work, and in this respect he was not lenient towards others. . . . Hanbury was a genuine English nature; but, in attaining his ends, he often learned to enter into foreign ideas, and this was not difficult to him. . . . Carelessness in the orthography of proper names and of geographical and botanical appellations was most distasteful to him, and he acknowledged, commendably, that this was not a German national vice. For the good side of German character he had an acute eye and just appreciation; his warm British patriotism, which he never renounced, did not for one moment prevent him being perfectly just to German culture and to German scientific pharmacy."

Prof. Flückiger's sketch of Hanbury exactly portrays him, and will be highly prized by all who had the honour of his acquaintance and the happiness of his friendship. No life was more fitting than Hanbury's to be set up as an example to the single-eyed student of science; and this volume is in every way a monument worthy of it.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

THE German African Association has, after all, joined the National Committee formed in connexion with the International Association established at Brussels. The Crown Prince has consented to become President. During the three years of its existence the Association has spent 13,700l., and it joins the new concern with 6,000l. in hand.

A curious incident happened at the last meeting of the Khedivial Geographical Society. M. de Lesseps was explaining the scheme for inundating

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the Algerian Sahara, and desired to point out something upon the map, when General Stone, the President, gallantly drew his sword, and presented it to him for the purpose. But the creator of the Suez Canal, and advocate of other enterprises designed to promote peaceful intercourse between nations, gracefully declined the offer, saying: "Je ne suis pas homme d'épée, je suis un homme de paix et je préfère la canne de Monsieur Bourdon; Monsieur Bourdon, donnez-moi votre canne."

The February number of Petermann's *Mittheilungen* contains a paper on Central African Railways, in which the author, Dr. G. Rohlfs, discusses the various schemes put forward, and pleads in favour of a line connecting Tripoli with Kuka. This route, he says, has been thoroughly explored, and offers no physical obstacles. It passes for a considerable distance through Turkish territory, and could be protected for the rest by a few forts. He thinks that this scheme might be carried out by an international company, upon which sovereign powers would have to be conferred. There are also papers on Nordenstiöld's last expedition, on the physical geography of Persia, with an excellent map, on the progress of geography during January, and, we are glad to say, the usual bibliographical notices.

The collections made in Italy on behalf of the Marchese Antinori's expedition have yielded the handsome sum of 6,060/, and Capt. Martini is thus enabled to rejoin his companions with an entirely new outfit. It is to be hoped that due care has been exercised this time in its selection; for, though there can be no doubt that the failure, thus far, is mainly due to the disgraceful conduct of the Egyptian Governor of Zeyla, it is ascribable, in some measure, to a want of attention to matters of detail. The stores had been nailed up in 250 wooden boxes, unsuited for transport by camels, and a month had to be wasted at Aden to bring order into this chaos. The firman granted by the Sultan had not been presented to the Khedive for endorsement; and, though it was sought to make good this omission by telegraph, the Egyptian authorities revenged themselves for the slight by merely instructing their Governor at Zeyla to allow the expedition to proceed at their own risk and peril, but not to render it any assistance. How these instructions were interpreted is well known. Had it not been for the opportune meeting with M. Arnoux, who was returning with a caravan from Shoa, and the generous assistance he rendered, the fiasco would have been even more conspicuous than it has been.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 15.—Dr. Hooker, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On Stratified Discharges. III. On a Rapid Contact Breaker and the Phenomena of the Flow,' by Mr. W. Spottiswoode.—'On Lymphatics and their Origins in Muscular Tissues,' by Mr. G. Hoggan and Mrs. Frances Elizabeth Hoggan,—'Remarks chiefly on 487 & 486,' by Mr. W. Shanks.

GEOLOGICAL.—Feb. 7.—Prof. P. M. Duncan, President, in the chair.—Messrs. J. Durham, H. W. Harrison, W. Hutchinson, H. M. Klaassen, G. Ogilvie, J. W. Spencer, and G. W. Vyse were elected Fellows.—The President announced that the officers of a newly established scientific club in Vienna had written, offering the use of the club to any of the Fellows of the Society who may visit Vienna.—The following communications were read: 'On the Chemical and Mineralogical Changes which have taken place in certain Eruptive Rocks of North Wales,' by Mr. J. A. Phillips,—"On New Species of Belemnites and Selenites from the Middle Tertiaries of South Australia," by Mr. R. Tate, and—"On *Manisaurus Gardneri* (Seely), an Elasmosaurian from the Base of the Gault at Folkestone," by Mr. H. G. Seeley.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 15.—F. Ouvry, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. R. Ferguson exhibited the following objects: 1. Brass matrix

of a seal found in Kent. The device of a man, tonsured, and kneeling, with a sun and moon on each side of his head, and looking up to a figure of what seemed to be St. Catharine. Inscription, S. Thomas Vyan. 2. Silver matrix of a seal with the device of a body lying in a grave hewn out of a rock, and with the inscription, "Hic Pietas tumulata jacet sub rupe profundâ." Both these seals were stated to have been found in Kent. 3. A small figure, found at Brough, in Westmoreland, representing a captive in a crouching attitude and in bonds. 4. A drawing of a Roman stone relic, found on the Roman wall, and representing a serpent wound round a fir-cone.—The reading of Capt. Burton's paper, 'On the History and Antiquities of Lissa and Pelagosa,' was resumed.

NUMISMATIC.—Feb. 15.—J. Evans, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. Vaux exhibited a gold coin of Diodotus, King of Bactriana; Mr. Neck, two milled half-crowns of Charles the Second, dated 1673, with a plume under the king's bust, one of them also with a plume in the centre of the reverse, both pieces of extreme rarity, that with the plume on the reverse probably unique.—Mr. F. W. Madden communicated the first portion of a paper 'On Christian Emblems on the Coins of Constantine the Great, his Family, and his Successors.'—Mr. C. F. Keary read the first of a series of papers 'On the Numismatics of the Transition Era from the Fall of the Western Empire to the Crowning of Charlemagne as Emperor, A.D. 800.' Mr. Keary began by discussing the condition of the coinage in Europe about the time of the accession of Honorius, and, from an examination of the laws, national poetry, &c., of the various Teutonic peoples, showed what were the substitutes for a coinage among them. Proceeding to the era of the Barbarian invasions, the writer was of opinion that a large proportion of the coinage in each invaded territory, becoming diverted from its proper uses, was employed only to pay taxes or tributes to the German conquerors, and was by them frequently converted into bullion or ornaments. Gold being the metal especially prized, Mr. Keary contended that the chief use of a gold coinage now became the paying of these taxes, while the money in the baser metals alone remained current among the earlier inhabitants. He next examined the earliest coinages of the various barbarian invaders, Burgundians, Visigoths, Vandals, &c., consisting of mere barbarous imitations of the Imperial coins, especially of the aurei.

LINNEAN.—Feb. 1.—G. Bentham, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. G. Boulger, A. S. Heath, and W. Meller were elected Fellows.—Mr. A. W. Bennett exhibited and made remarks on specimens of insects illustrating mimicry; these had been captured in Syria by Mr. N. Godman.—An unusual form of double anemone and some excessively large oak-leaves gathered near Croydon were shown and commented on by Mr. S. Stevens.—Sir J. Lubbock then proceeded with Part IV. of his contributions 'On the Habits of Ants,' &c. By an ingenious contrivance of something of a double letter form (thus, Fz), an interval of three-tenths of an inch, either by a drop from above or reaching the distance from below, was formed by withdrawal of a small cross bar. This almost inappreciable space alone prevented the ants from reaching a glass cell filled with larvae, for they evidently had not sense or intelligence enough to surmount it, although they had for hours been traversing the route and carrying off larvae previous to the three-tenths of an inch being left open. Industry was conspicuously shown by one specimen, which Sir John used to place in solitary confinement in a bottle for hours, and once for days; but the moment it was released it commenced larva-gathering, though just previously on short commons. Sir John's experiments with ants subjected to chloroform or spirit have been already related at the Royal Institution. Sir John expresses surprise that ants of one nest perfectly well know each other. Even after a year's separation old companions

are recognized and amicably received, whereas strangers, particularly of *Lasius flavus*, are almost invariably attacked and maltreated, even when introduced in the mixed company of old friends. Sight cannot be acute. For example, in experiments food was placed on a glass slip a few inches from the nest, the straight road to and from the nest being soon familiar to the ants; but when the food had been shifted only a short distance from its first position, it was long ere its new site was discovered. Indeed, they wandered from a few minutes to half an hour in the most extraordinary circuitous routes, a perfect maze of cross-paths, before finding out the direct road between nest and food, and vice versa. Slavery in certain genera is a positive institution, the Amazon ants (*Polyergus rufescens*) absolutely requiring a slave assistant to clean, to dress, and to feed them; else they will rather die than help themselves, though food be close by. A curious blind Wood-louse (*Platyarthrus Hoffmannseggii*) is allowed house room as a kind of scavenger, but little heed is taken of it. Some new Diptera of the family Phoridae Sir John finds to be parasitic on our home ants.—A paper 'On the Aspects of the Vegetation of Rodriguez' was read by Mr. I. Bailey Balfour, who accompanied, as botanist, the Transit of Venus Expedition in 1874. It seems that, like the Flora of St. Helena, that of Rodriguez has suffered great changes, partly by human and other agencies. It is insular, dry, and temperate, rather than humid and tropical in character. The facies is predominantly Asiatic, though forms of Mascarenian type, and even Polynesian and American forms, are sparingly met with. The leaves of many plants exhibit a heteromorphism of a marked kind, and this Mr. Balfour described with fulness, remarking that while as a whole in degree and kind variable, yet among species leaf variation is pretty uniform.—'The Fungi of the Challenger Expedition (third notice)', by the Rev. M. J. Berkeley, and 'On Steere's Tropical Ferns,' by Prof. Harrington, U.S., were papers announced and taken as read.

STATISTICAL.—Feb. 20.—J. Heywood, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. C. Walford read a paper 'On Fires and Fire Insurance, considered in their National Aspects.'

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Jan. 17.—*Anniversary Meeting*.—Sir S. S. Saunders, V.P., in the chair.—An abstract of the Treasurer's account and the Report of the Council of 1876 were read.—The following Officers and Council were elected: Prof. Westwood, President; J. J. Weir, Treasurer; Rev. T. A. Marshall, Librarian; Messrs. F. Grut and R. Meldola, Secretaries; Prof. Westwood, Sir S. S. Saunders, Messrs. H. W. Bates, Champion, Dunning, Grut, Meldola, Stainton, Weir, Douglas, E. Saunders, Rev. A. E. Eaton, and Rev. T. A. Marshall, Council.—The President, in consequence of an accident, was prevented from attending, and the delivery of his Address was unavoidably postponed till the next meeting.

Feb. 7.—Prof. Westwood, President, in the chair.—W. D. Roebuck, Esq., of Leeds, was elected a subscriber.—The President nominated Messrs. J. W. Douglas, J. W. Dunning, and H. T. Stainton as Vice-Presidents for the ensuing year.—The President delivered the Address, postponed from the last meeting, 'On the Progress of Entomology during the Past Year.'—Mr. F. Boud exhibited a specimen of the North American butterfly, *Danaus Archippus*, taken in September last, near Hassock's Gate, Sussex, being the third specimen taken in this country.—The President exhibited a specimen of the singular butterfly, *Bhutanitis Liddellii*, Atkinson, from Bhutan. He also read a letter, which he had received from Baron v. Osten-Sacken, referring to his paper 'On the Dipterous Genus *Systropus*', published in the last part of the *Transactions* of the Society, in which he had stated that a species from Natal (*S. crudelis*) had been bred from a cocoon resembling that of Limacodes, and pointing out that *Systropus macer*, the common species in the United States, had

been bred from the cocoon of *Limacodes hyalinus*, and it was a remarkable instance of community of habit among insects of the same genus in far distant regions.—The President read some remarks he had received from M. E. Olivier, respecting insects of the dipterous genus *Bombylius*, frequenting the nests of a bee of the genus *Anthophora* at Pompeii.—Mr. M'Lachlan exhibited a case of a Lepidopterous larva sent by Dr. Kirk, of Zanzibar, who had found it on a species of Mimosa. He considered it to be allied to *Polyphemus* and *Oiketicus*; and it was remarkable on account of its form, which bore a striking resemblance to that of a flattened *Helix*. It appeared to be constructed of a substance resembling papier mâché, with a smooth, whitish external coating.—Mr. C. O. Waterhouse exhibited some remarkable varieties of British Lepidoptera, viz., *Chrysophanus phleas*, *Polyommatus Adonis*, *P. Alexis*, and *Agrotis exclamationis*.—Dr. B. White forwarded an extract from the *Medical Examiner* of the 21st of December last, containing an account, by Dr. T. Fox, of an extraordinary case of "pruritus," which afflicted every member of a family and household, including even the dog and cat. A specimen of the insect causing it had been submitted to Dr. Cobbold, who pronounced it to be a species of *Trombicula*, which was believed by Dr. Fox to have originated from certain plants in the garden, and that the cat and dog, which appeared to have been the first affected, were agents in conveying the parasites to the human members.—The following papers were read: "Notes on the African Saturnidae in the Collection of the Royal Dublin Society," by Mr. W. F. Kirby;—"Descriptions of new Genera and Species of Phytophagous Beetles belonging to the Family Cryptocephalidae, together with Diagnoses and Remarks on previously described Genera," and "Descriptions of new Species of Phytophagous Beetles belonging to the Family Eumolpidae, including a Monograph of the Genus *Eumolpus*," by Mr. J. S. Baly.

CHEMICAL.—Feb. 15.—Dr. Gilbert, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. Dupré read a paper "On the Estimation of Urea by means of Hypobromite," in which he described a new form of apparatus and certain modifications in details of Russell and West's process.—The other papers were: "On a New Carbometer for the Estimation of Carbonic Anhydride," by Mr. S. T. Pruen and Dr. G. Jones, being a modification of Scheibler's calcimeter;—"On the Influence exerted by Ammonium Sulphide in Preventing the Action of various Solutions on Copper," by Mr. F. W. Shaw and Dr. T. Carnelly,—"An Experimental Inquiry as to the Changes which occur in the Composition of Waters from Wells near the Sea," by Mr. W. H. Watson,—"On the Solvent Action of various Saline Solutions upon Lead," by Mr. M. M. P. Muir,—"Derivatives of Di-isobutyl," by Mr. W. C. Williams,—and "Notes on Madder Colouring Matters," by Dr. E. Schunck and Dr. H. Roemer.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Feb. 16.—H. Sweet, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Rev. K. Fortescue was elected a Member.—Mr. E. L. Brandreth read part of a paper "On the non-Aryan Languages of India." Six groups might be made of them, namely, Dravidian, Kolarian, Burmo-Tibetan, Khasi, Tai, and Mon-Anam. He described the leading characteristics, such as the rational and irrational gender, and the expression of several grammatical categories and relations by root-modification, of the Dravidian; the animate and inanimate gender, the agreement of the verb with both subject and object, and the two forms of each tense, of the Kolarian; the tones, the determinative syllables, and great differences of verbal structure, of the Burmo-Tibetan.

PSYCHOLOGICAL.—Feb. 13.—Mr. Serjeant Cox, President, in the chair.—After the reading of some communications of psychological phenomena, a paper was read by Mr. C. Bray, "On Cerebral Psychology," showing the relationship of the brain to mental action.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Feb. 13.—Mr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Miss Buckland read a paper "On Primitive Agriculture," in which the value of the study of the subject was explained, as determining migrations, &c., of nations in prehistoric times. The origin of the cereals is still obscure, and maize, which has been considered indigenous to the new world, and unknown in Europe before the time of Columbus, was, in the opinion of Miss Buckland (based on the reports of recent travellers in Africa, Madagascar, New Guinea, China, &c.), cultivated by peoples which have never had intercourse with Europeans. In America, China, and Ancient Egypt there are traces of a time anterior to that of the cultivation of the cereals; and a similarity of myths, customs, &c., of China, Egypt, Peru, and Mexico, leads to the conclusion that an allied pre-Aryan race introduced cereals into all these countries. In the discussion, Mr. B. Dawkins, the President, and others took part.—Mr. Hyde Clarke exhibited some weapons from the Amazon river, on which Mr. Franks and others remarked.—Lord Rosehill exhibited a collection of flint weapons, objects, &c., from Honduras.—The President, Mr. Blackmore, Mr. Franks, and others spoke on the subject.

PHYSICAL.—Feb. 17.—Prof. W. G. Adams, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. T. W. Phillips was elected a Member.—Prof. Guthrie exhibited for Mr. C. J. Woodward an apparatus he has devised for showing to an audience the interference of transverse waves.—Mr. S. P. Thompson exhibited some galvanometers in the form of magic lantern slides, which he has arranged for exhibiting their indications to an audience.—Mr. Wilson showed an arrangement for exhibiting convection currents in heated water. It consists of a small glass cell, with parallel sides. In the base of the wood dividing the sides is cut a slight depression to expose a brass tube, which traverses it horizontally, and is open at one end, while the other is bent at right angles, and connected with a flask containing water. The brass tube where it is exposed in the cell is surrounded with a jelly formed of gelatine, containing rose aniline, and the cell is filled with water, and projected on the screen. When the tube is heated by boiling the water in the flask, the jelly is liquefied, and the liberated colouring matter rises in the water, showing the direction of the heated current.—Prof. Guthrie exhibited an arrangement he has been using with a view to determine the vapour tension of water, and explained the difficulties to which such a determination is liable, and the manner in which his apparatus has so far failed.—Prof. Guthrie then showed the manner in which electricity is distributed on non-conductors, such as the plate of an electrophorus, by placing it for a given time beneath a point connected with a charged Leyden jar, and subsequently sprinkling a mixture of sulphur and litharge over it. It was shown that the diameter of the circle formed below the point after the superfluous powder had been removed, is not purely a function of the distance between the point and the plate, but is mainly influenced by the conductivity of the material, and further, that if the point be directed obliquely towards the plate, the circle formed is very slightly elliptical, but the ellipticity is in no degree proportionate to the obliquity of the point; and, finally, he showed that if the non-conducting plate of an electrophorus be written upon with a metal, and sprinkled with the above mixture of sulphur and litharge, the former or latter adheres according to the nature of the metal used.

TELEGRAPH ENGINEERS.—Feb. 14.—Prof. Abel, President, in the chair.—The paper read was, "On Shunts and their Applications to Electro-metric and Telegraphic Purposes," by Mr. W. H. Preese.—At the conclusion of the meeting, over fifty candidates were balloted for, for admission into the Society of Arts.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. London Institution, 8.—"The Problem of Flight," Mr. F. W. Barry.
- Institute of Actuaries, 7.—"Comparison of Various Methods of Calculating Mortality Tables, considered in Reference to the Valuation of the Liabilities of a Large Life Office under its Assurance Contracts, Part I. Calculation and Comparison of Elementary Values," Mr. W. Sutton.
- United Service Institution, 8.—"Application of the Ordinary Screw (or Screw) to the Discharge of Water from Leaks," Mr. R. Griffiths.
- Royal Academy, 8.—"Architecture," Mr. E. M. Barry.
- Geographical, 8.—"Recent Journey to Lake Nyassa," Mr. E. D. Young; "Examination of a Route for Wheeled Vehicles between the East Coast of Africa and Europe," Mr. R. Price.
- TUES. Royal Institution, 3.—"The Human Form: its Structure in Relation to Contour," Prof. A. H. Garrod.
- Anthropological Institute, 8.—"Non-Sepulchral Rude Stone in a Cave near Tenby, Pembrokeshire," Messrs. W. Power and E. Laws; "Kitchen Middens near Ventnor, Isle of Wight," Mr. H. M. Westropp.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—"Discussion on the Sewage Question."
- WED. British Museum, 8.—"Demonstrations," Mr. J. Marshall.
- Telegraph Engineers, 8.—"Fire Telegraphs," Mr. K. von P. Treuenfeld.
- Society of Arts, 8.—"Middle-Class Education in Holland," Dr. J. Yeats.
- THURS. Royal Institution, 7.—"Theory of Music," Mr. W. Poole.
- London Institution, 7.—"English Nursery Tales: their Origin and Meaning," Mr. W. R. S. Ralston.
- Linnean, 8.—"Report on the Lilaceæ, Iridaceæ, Hypoxidaceæ, and Hamamelidaceæ of Dr. Weitzsch's Angolan Herbarium," Mr. J. C. Baker; "Remarkable Form of New Zealand Ophrys," Mr. J. Smith; "Lichenographia of New Zealand," Mr. C. Knight.
- Chemical, 8.—"Lecture on the Theory of the Bunsen Flame," Prof. Thorpe.
- Meteorological, 8.—"Antiquities," Election of Fellows.
- Psychological, 8.—"Report of Psychological Facts; Psychology of the Human Bone," Prof. Plumptree; "Adjourned Discussion on Psychology of Dream."
- FRI. United Service Institution, 3.—"Maritime Warfare: the Importance to the British Empire of a Complete System of Telegraphs, Coal Stations, and Graving Docks," Mr. D. Currie.
- Royal Society, 8.—"Phylogeny," Mr. D. Forsyth.
- Philological, 8.—"Phylogeny of the English Dialects," Mr. A. J. Ellis.
- SAT. Royal Institution, 9.—"History of Birds," Prof. Huxley.
- United Service Institution, 12.—"Anniversary."
- Royal Institution, 2.—"Effects of the French Revolution upon English Literature," Prof. H. Morley.
- Physical, 8.

Science Gossip.

The President and Council of the Royal Society have sent out cards for two Receptions and a Conversazione. The Receptions, as last year—morning dress gatherings, confined almost exclusively to the Fellows of the Society,—will be held on March 7 and May 30, and the Conversazione on April 25, the day in each case being Wednesday.

The comet discovered by M. Borelli at Marseilles, on the morning of February 9 (as mentioned in last week's *Athenæum*), was detected independently the following morning by Herr Pechüle, at Copenhagen, and afterwards observed by Dr. Winnecke, at Strasbourg, and others. Its parabolic orbit has been calculated by Dr. Holteches, of Vienna, and by Mr. Hind. It thus appears that the comet passed its perihelion so long ago as January 19, the distance from the Sun being then 0.807 in terms of the Earth's mean distance; and that it was nearest the Earth on Sunday last, February 18, when its distance from us was about twenty-five millions of miles, or nearly the same as that of the planet Venus when nearest. From its rapid northerly motion, it has been for some days always above the horizon in these latitudes; but it is becoming so faint that it will not be visible much longer even in telescopes. When brightest, it was scarcely visible to the naked eye. It will, of course, reckon as Comet I, 1877.

MESSRS. COLLINS, SONS & CO. will immediately publish, in two volumes, "Theoretical Naval Architecture: a Treatise on the Calculations involved in Naval Design," by Samuel J. C. Thearle, F.R.S.N.A., Surveyor to Lloyd's Register of Shipping. The second volume will consist of a series of plates and tables. The same firm have also nearly ready for publication an "Elementary Text Book on Agriculture," by Prof. Wrightson, College of Agriculture, Cirencester.

In consequence of an unfortunate accident to Mr. Charles W. Vincent, his lecture "On Spontaneous Combustion in Factories and Ships," which was to have been delivered before the Society of Arts, is postponed.

Bollettino del R. Comitato Geologico d'Italia, for November and December, 1876, contains several papers of much interest. Especially may be named "Il Terreno Pliocenico dei dintorni di Siracusa," by E. Stöhr, with its very complete list of fossils. This journal records the deaths of the following

geologists : W. Sartorius von Waltershausen, well known by his magnificent work on Etna ; Francesco Foersterle, whose geological maps of the Venetian states are familiar to geologists ; Enrico Credner, whose geological maps of the North-west of Germany and of Hanover have made his name a European one ; and Raffaello Foresi, who devoted his life to the study of the rocks of the island of Elba.

PROF. LIVERSIDGE has published a complete and valuable list of the minerals of New South Wales.

FINE ARTS

The SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The FIFTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION of SKETCHES and STUDIES will CLOSE on SATURDAY, March 10.—5, Pall Mall East. Ten till Five. Admission, 1s.

ALFRED D. FRITH, Sec.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The ELEVENTH WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at the Royal Academy, 63, Pall Mall. Catalogue, 1s.

H. F. PHILLIPS, Sec.

DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—GENERAL EXHIBITION of WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.—The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is OPEN DAILY from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

ROBERT F. M'NAIR, Sec.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING the PRETORIUM,' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter just completed), each 33 by 22 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Caiphas,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

Notes on the Churches of Derbyshire. By J. C. Cox. Vol. II. The Hundreds of the High Peak and Wirksworth. Illustrated. (Chesterfield, Palmer & Edmunds ; London and Derby, Benarose.)

SOME time ago we noticed with considerable pleasure the first volume of these Notes which promise to furnish for all time to come ample materials for the history of the churches in Derbyshire. The first volume was restricted to the Hundred of Scarsdale. This second volume deals with the Hundreds of the High Peak and Wirksworth. The former of these two hundreds is not only the most picturesque and peculiar of the three divisions of the county, but the richest in architectural remains. Indeed, the churches of Bakewell, Eyam, Tideswell, Youlgreave, Ashbourne, to say nothing of smaller ones, form a group which it would be hard to surpass in the kingdom. A common character is observable in these edifices of late Decorated or early Perpendicular origin. The churches have wide, large naves and chancels, towers of medium height, and lofty, frequently very elegant, spires of stone—Ashover, Ashbourne, Bakewell, Eckington, Monyash, Taddington, Hathersage, and others ; while a greater number are of the same type, but are more or less imperfect. For instance, some towers have dumpy spires, or none at all, as Youlgreave. Unusual size is another distinct and frequent characteristic of the Derbyshire churches, as Bakewell, Ashbourne, Tideswell, Chesterfield. There are a few curiosities, such as the octagonal church at Stoney Middleton and the chapel of St. Anne at Buxton, both originally well-chapels. The dedications are not remarkable ; but the rare invocation to St. Charles the Martyr occurs at Peak Forest. The author notes as the only other instance Newton, Wem ; but he has surely forgotten the third case at Plymouth. The parson of Peak Forest chapelry possessed amazing rights : his See, for such it really was, was extra-parochial, extra-episcopal, under no external jurisdiction. His proper title was "Principal Official and Judge in Spiritualities in the Peculiar Court

of Peak Forest" ; he was his own surrogate, and could grant marriage licences, and he had a seal for the purpose, probably the most uncouth that ever parson used, e.g. the inscription read right off the seal, so that the impress read wrong ! St. Charles in the Peak was a sort of Midland Gretna Green ; the registers show "foreign" marriages at the rate of more than one a week, and the parson made 100l. a year out of them. The Act of 1753 checked this practice ; but Mr. Cox says that within the peculiarity the minister can yet issue licences.

The very large chancels were, of course, the priest's peculiar "pounds," as they were irreverently styled, and they were due to the "revival" in the fourteenth century. In the interior of the churches there are often early English and Norman fragments of considerable beauty, as is noteworthy the case at Ashbourne, Bakewell, and Youlgreave. Transepts are by no means so rare as in many counties. Several of the parish books are extremely interesting : indeed, those at Youlgreave are valuable, not only because they date from 1558, but from their nature ; so are the churchwardens' accounts, which range, with few breaks, from 1604 ; and Mr. Cox has done well to give copious extracts. In these memoranda we find recorded the usual matters of expense, but never yet did we meet with accounts indicating so many repairs to the church bells ; either the ringers were more than usually noisy and violent—many a noble tower had been brought low by such ruffians—or the bells were thirsty and hungry bells. The entries refer to payments for whipping dogs out of the church ; subscriptions in aid of debtors in prison at the King's Bench, Marshalsea ; a fine "for getting a dwarf with child" ; payments for maimed soldiers ; "to a pore boy that had his legg cut off," 1s. ; "to a Groetian having a letter patent," i.e., licence to beg ; "to an old minister" ; "for killing of foxes"—this is an entry which no churchwarden in the shire would now dare to make ; "for killing two ravens" ; "Pd for 35 hedgehogs" ; "to y^e ringers upon y^e news of y^e Victory at Ramillies, 2s. 6d." ; "1624, for ringing Nov. 23d his M^{rs} contract with the Lady of France, 6d." ; "y^e Yew Tree," so dear to folks at Youlgreave, often comes to notice ; "1632, for Paules church," London ; "1713, to the man for whipping David Wright, 8d."

Among the curiosities is the pulpit at Mellor, and fourteenth-century church plates at Derwent, remarkable as having been cut out of the solid, and the Vernon tomb at Bakewell. But if any antiquities in the county call for the antiquary's attention, it is the numerous incised grave-slabs : these are frequently of great merit, as the Rollesby memorial at Darley Dale ; the incised crosses, as at Bakewell, Chelmorton, Wirksworth, and Darley, doubtless twelfth century. There is a very late brass plate at Matlock, 1769 ; there is another at Edensor, 1735. Very high indeed in the ranks of English antiquities stand the fine stone crosses at Bakewell, Eyam, Tattington, and Hope.

Mr. Cox gives good indexes to names of persons and places. It is to be hoped that, when his excellent work is complete, he will add a good index to subjects.

NOTES FROM ROME.

ALTHOUGH the Porta Viminalis of the agger of Servius was known to have opened half-way between the Porta Collina and Esquiline, yet no traces of it had been found up to the present day in the course of the extensive excavations carried on in the neighbourhood of the Railway Station. This problem of Roman Topography is now practically solved.

The agger of Servius, it must be remembered, is composed of an outside ditch, one hundred feet wide, thirty feet deep ; a wall built of huge blocks of peperino and tufa, supporting an embankment made with the earth excavated from the ditch ; and, lastly, an inside wall of much lesser strength, supporting the slope of the embankment. In the first week of January a solution of continuity was noticed, both in the inner and outer walls, across which runs the lava pavement of a consular road. The opening, or cut, through the embankment is supported on each side of the road by massive walls of peperino, with restorations of opus reticulatum, or net-work of the first century. These walls are not parallel ; but the distance between them, which amounts to thirteen metres on the town side, diminishes as we approach the gate.

The opening of the Porta Viminalis (the centre of which corresponds to twenty-three metres from the south-east corner of the new Custom House, between the Railway Station and the Via di Porta S. Lorenzo) seems to have been in use up to the age of Sixtus the Fifth ; because it is still lined with medieval walls, enclosing those vineyards so often mentioned in the transactions of the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries, and especially in the archives of S. Maria in Cosmedin. Pope Sixtus bought extensive property in the neighbourhood for the creation of his villa. He carried a branch specus of his Aqua Felice across the gate, following the line of the Marcia, Tepula and Julia, and then filled up the passage, burying under the artificial hill known as Monte della Giustizia the gate, the agger, the aqueducts, and the medieval walls. The inroads of railways have destroyed the arrangements of the energetic Pontiff. The Aqua Felice no longer flows through and vivifies his nymphæ and fountains ; the lovely grounds are now occupied by a San Francisco-like, right angle cornered quarter ; the Monte della Giustizia is no longer the highest landmark on the Cisiterine side ; the ruins, twenty-five centuries old, which the mound concealed, are brought to light ; but, alas ! the sun will not shine over them very long, because the work of destruction follows closely the work of discovery.

There is no doubt that the triple channel of the Marcia, Tepula and Julia came into the town through the Porta Viminalis. Cippi, marking their course, were found, outside the walls, at the corner of Via Castro Pretorio and S. Lorenzo, as well as inside, along the east side of the station. Some of these stones are *jugerales*, viz. marking the mouth of wells, or *spiracula*, which opened at an interval of a *jugerum*, or 240 feet from each other. Some are *terminales*, viz. showing the line and direction of subterranean channels, so that the same line could be kept free from buildings, plantations, and so on. Almost at the same time the specus of the Anio Vetus was discovered at the southwest corner of the military hospital at S. Antonio in exequitibus. This monument of hydraulic skill of some twenty-one centuries ago is built of blocks of tufa : one put lengthways makes the bottom of the channel ; two the sides ; and two again, leaning against each other at an angle of 32°, make the roof. I do not need to insist on the importance of such discoveries. The course of the aqueducts within the walls is so closely connected with the site of the gates, foras, baths, and other public buildings that its discovery throws unexpected light over the topography of whole regions.

A few yards from the Hospital, and between it and the Arch of Gallienus, we have found a deposit of bronzes of various kinds stripped and stolen from a private house, and concealed in a room afterwards destroyed by fire. The best piece yet recovered is a fragment of a *tabula patricinii*,

the meaning of which, as suggested by Mommsen, is that, "In the year 82, under the consulship of Domitian and T. Flavius Sabinus, on the 10th of July, the magistrates of the *Colonia Flavia Pacis Deultensium* proposed, and the people of the colony agreed, that having duly served in the eighth Legio Augusta, and having consequently received the *honestia missio* and the settlement in that colony, their patronage should be entrusted to Avidius Quietus, and that a copy of the decree engraved in bronze should be affixed in the house of the patron in Rome." If the *tabula* had been found *in situ*, we should have known the site of the palace of the Avidii. But there is no doubt that the bronzes were brought and concealed in the place of their actual discovery from afar, because the space, or part of the space, between S. Antonio and the Arch of Gallienus was occupied by the establishment, or *castra*, as they called it, of the washers or scourers of cloths and linen (*fullones*), together with the keepers of public fountains (*fontani*). These noisy people claimed rights over some property—perhaps a supply of water—and brought an action against some unknown opponents—perhaps the *curatores aquarum*—who wanted to be paid for the use of the water. The trial lasted no less than twenty-one years (much to the honour of the lawyers or barristers of that day), and ended with the victory of the fullones. Their joy was proportionate to the time they had waited. They could not find gods enough in the Roman Olympus to whom to make votive offerings. The number of altars discovered by Fabretti (in the same place where the bronze of Avidius Quietus was found) set up to Hercules, to the Victory, to Minerva, and other divinities, conveys an idea of the enormous wealth of the company. They had the text of the judgment engraved at least twice in marble, and must have spent twice as much money in celebrating the result of the trial as the trial itself had cost them.

To come back to the excavations of the Porta Viminale, I must notice that the space between the baths of Diocletian and the agger was occupied partly by the *excubitorium*, or corps de garde of the third battalion of Firemen, partly by private houses. To the first belongs an inscription dedicated by T. Flavius Magnus, Prefect of the Firemen from the 30th of May, 199, to the 10th of February, 200, to Septimius Severus, on account of some benefits he had received from the Imperial family. The barracks themselves were built on the usual plan of a square courtyard, with rows of cells on each side. The pavement of the court is made of coloured marbles. The walls of the rooms are painted in fresco, with graceful flying figures on a black ground. Owing to the discovery of this branch fire-station, we know pretty well now how the whole body of the vigiles, 7,000 men strong, was distributed over the town. The head-quarters, where the prefect and sub-prefect had their offices, were under the Palazzo Savorelli at the northern end of the Piazza dei SS. Apostoli. Here also was stationed the first battalion. The six others were disposed along the Servian walls, so that each one could watch over two neighbouring regions. The second battalion was stationed near the Arch of Gallienus, in a spot corresponding to the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele. It had the care of the fourth and fifth regions. The third was stationed not far from the Church of S. Bernardo. Considerable remains of the barracks lie under the works of Mr. Luswerg. The site of the fourth station has been determined from the discovery of many inscriptions near the Church of S. Alessio on the Aventine. The fifth stood within the precincts of the Villa Mattei on the Caelian, where two gigantic pedestals, containing the registers of the battalion, were discovered in January, 1820. The site of the sixth remains unknown, but there is good ground to suppose that it stood not far from the Piazza della Consolazione. The seventh is known to have stood in the vicinity of the Church of S. Cecilia in Trastevere. Besides the seven great stations, there were fourteen *excubitoria*, or branch stations, of which only three have yet been

determined, viz. the one (the fourteenth) discovered in 1867 at S. Crisogono, another (the ninth) found by Fabretti at S. Antonio in Esquilino, and, lastly, the fifth, pulled down in these days at the south-east corner of the baths of Diocletian. I may conclude this paragraph by mentioning the discovery of a marble containing the inventory of the engines belonging to one of the stations. It was dug up in the autumn of 1876 next to the Church of S. Paolo alle Tre Fontane, but the most important part of the description seems to be missing. It begins with the words, "DESCRITIO FER . . . feriarum, according to De Rossi; feriarum, according to Mommsen. The date of the year, 362, comes next, viz. the consulship of Mamertinus and Nevitta, after which begins the inventory, "MATRONAE CVM CARPENTIS—SIFONIBUS—FALCIBUS—VNCINIS—Balteis or ballistis." I wonder what Capt. Shaw will think of this rudimentary apparatus of his Roman Predecessors.

Besides the station of the vigiles, I have mentioned also some private houses as occupying the level ground between the baths of Diocletian and the agger. One of the houses was the club or *schola*, of an unknown company, the *SODALES SERRENSES*, as shown by an inscription found on the spot. Another building seems to have belonged to the Praetorians, who built a chapel in one of the rooms, and set up an altar to SILVANO SALVTARI. Here, also, was dug up a piece of one of the great dedicatory inscriptions of the baths of Diocletian, ending with the words . . . coemptis . . . adiiciens . . . pro . . . tanti . . . operis . . . magnitudine . . . (thermae) . . . omni . . . cultu . . . perfectas . . . romanis . . . suis . . . dedicaverunt. The fate of the great inscriptions of these baths is worth mentioning. The largest one seems to have been broken into four pieces; one was set in the pavement of a courtyard between S. Antonio and S. Andrea; another was built up in the walls of the Carthusian monastery of S. Maria degli Angeli; and the third is the one lately found at the Railway Station; out of the fourth was made the threshold of the Church of S. Alessio, on the Aventine! (Cf. 'C. T. L.', vol. vi, p. 234.)

A curious *tabula lusoria*, or gambling-board (in marble), was found at the corner of Via Volturno and the Via Montebello. These boards have, as a rule, six words of six letters each, disposed by couples, so as to make three lines, each consisting of two words and twelve letters. Sometimes there are only two lines, such as in the *tabula lusoria*, set in the pavement of the Basilica Julia, which reads, PERDES PLANGE || VINCES GAVDES. The sentence engraved in the one of the Via Volturno says, "We have for dinner ham, a fish, a chicken, a peacock," which would be a rich menu for Praetorians, as they sign themselves on the board.

A suspension bridge is going to be carried across the Forum Romanum, between the temple of Antoninus and that of Castor, to allow further excavations without interfering with the traffic. Would it not be better in every respect to let the cartmen and cabdrivers go round the northern end of the Forum? It would not cost them more than a couple of minutes.

You heard from a telegram in the *Times* of the discovery made near Verona of six hundred pounds of coins of the third century, concealed within two amphorae. The best part of the treasure has been spared for the study of scientific men, and will be arranged in the Veronese Museum. No less gigantic is the discovery made at Bologna by Signor Zannoni of a ton and a half of bronzes of every description. The fibulae, armillæ, secures, and other utensils, number thousands; the marks of their casting are still so sharp and fresh that the enormous mass must have been buried before any were sold.

Your readers must remember how, at the end of 1870 or the beginning of 1871, three bronze tables were found at Osuna, in Andalusia, containing part of the municipal law of the *Colonia Juia Genitiva Urbanorum sive Ursinis*. The manner of the man who sold them to Francisco Caballero-Infante, his determination not to tell the exact spot where they had been dug up, and some secret

confidences he made to his friends, made everybody suppose that not only the missing part of the third column, but that whole sheets had been found at the same time, and were kept concealed until the interest created by the study of the first three sold to Caballero would increase the value of the others. This suspicion, to which I find reference in the publications of Immanuel Berlanga, Theodor Mommsen, and Emil Huebner, proved to be just. In the autumn of 1875, Francisco Ocaña, from Osuna, offered to the Trustees of the Museum at Berlin two more tables, on the condition that no inquiries should be made about the place of their discovery, and the circumstances concerning his possession of them. Well and justly did Theodor Mommsen protest against this *auri sacram famem*, which has deprived science of such precious monuments for more than five years, especially as we are almost sure that not a single line of the text is missing, but will be concealed so long as there is a chance of a better bargain.

RODOLFO LANCIANI,

P.S. The treasure discovered at Palestrina by Frollano and Bernardini, which I described in my letter of October the 7th, has just been purchased by the Government at a cost of 75,000 francs, and will shortly be arranged in the Kircherian Museum.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

Coram Court, Corham, Feb. 16, 1877.

My attention has been drawn to an article in your valuable paper, giving an account of some of my pictures at Burlington House; and as the writer of the article has, I think, done great injustice to the merits of one of them, you will be doing me a great favour by allowing me to send two short extracts, one from Waagen's 'Works of Art,' the other from 'Travels in England,' by Dr. Spiker, Librarian to the King of Prussia, 1820.

Waagen, after bestowing the highest possible praise on the picture (formerly attributed to Van Eyck), concludes thus: "In many parts this admirable picture calls to mind Bernhard van Orley; but then the tone is very different from his, and, as well as the characters, bears more resemblance to the early and best time of Mabuse." — Page 92, vol. iii. Waagen's 'Works of Art,' 1828.

Dr. Spiker, in 'Travels through England,' &c., 1820, p. 173: —

"But the jewel of this room is a picture said to be by John Van Eyck, &c. It is impossible to tear ourselves hastily from this picture, &c. I went several times through the different rooms, but always found myself at last beside this treasure."

I have never known the merits of the picture questioned, before I read the article alluded to.

METHUEN.

. Lord Methuen refers to the picture No. 143 in the present Academy Exhibition (see *Athenæum*, No. 2570). Mabuse had two manners. Both of these are illustrated by well authenticated pictures. His masterpiece at Castle Howard is a specimen of his earlier, or Gothic manner, while the 'Portrait of a Man,' in the National Gallery (Wynn Ellis Gift), exemplifies the artist's later style, which developed under Italian influences, and, so far as execution goes, is radically different from its forerunner. The Flemish sentiment is, of course, expressed by both. The Queen's picture, 'Holy Family,' R.A., No. 173, "attributed to A. Dürer," is a capital example of the former mode; and, therefore, for convenience sake, we referred our readers to it, and, for the later style of Mabuse, to the 'Portrait of a Man,' in order to show that the picture, for a sight of which, with many other and much finer works, the public is indebted to Lord Methuen, belongs to neither of these classes. It appears to us to show numerous signs of Bernard van Orley. Our chief ground for coming to this conclusion is, apart from technical considerations, the sentiment of the picture. We feel sure that any one familiar with the conventionalities of the school of Raphael, as expressed in Flemish, will not fail

to recognize which is on the contrary affected by deficiency in which exists pictures, a B. Van Liere School," paired with de Caronde Christian Radnor's Academy unique. Details of the pictures competitive here in 1820. It has been scarce, tent, true, to be considered various or curiously thought on Orley's to or Van Lier made to tires in the styles receive

ON DEC. 1. article which notes and the more which I original. Creator, pretend to work of Taylor on laws I have and corro difficulties which I have melodial note,—the note sound sprinkled resting in note from five minutes reading circles: a pole. A advancing called a fine I should sounded, perfect through the colour laws. If any communication my form to above. belief of the developed the Hoping ab plated the His kind irreparable some mind by an upside; a medium sustain my

MESSRS. for pounds

to recognize them in Lord Methuen's picture, which is without a trace of Gothic pathos, but, on the contrary, has abundance of the artificial feeling of Van Orley and other professors of that affectedly graceful, but really purposeless mood, deficient in spontaneity, facile, and somewhat flabby, which existed, later, in the last Italianized Flemish pictures, and ended in the glass transparencies of B. Van Linge, and other painters of the "Big Wig School." The picture cannot for a moment be compared with the later works of Mabuse, as the 'Jehan de Carondelet' in the Louvre, the 'Children of Christian the Second,' at Hampton Court, or Lord Radnor's repetition of the latter, which was at the Academy last year, No. 173. They differ in *technique*. Dr. Spiker was affected by the sentiment of the picture; but he seems to have been hardly competent to judge it as a work of art. He was here in 1816.

It has been said that the pictures of Van Orley are scarce, and the statement is, to a certain extent, true. It is no wonder that his works should be considered rare, for they have been ascribed to various other masters, many of whom differed curiously from each other. At one time, it was thought no sin to award the productions of Van Orley's to Da Vinci, Raphael, Mabuse, Van Eyck, or Van Leyden. Even Michael Angelo has been made to take the place of his rival's pupil; pictures in the most archaic or the most ornate of styles received the name of Van Orley.

NOTES, TONES, AND COLOURS.

Bedwyn, Sandown, Isle of Wight.

On December 26, 1874, you kindly inserted an article which I sent to you on the development of notes and colours. The more I study the subject, the more I am convinced that the foundation upon which I am building is correct, and I fancy original. It is simple, but, like all the laws of the Creator, very complex in its working. I do not

pretend to understand the deep reasoning in the work of Prof. Helmholtz or in that by Mr. Sedley Taylor on sound and music; but I believe that the laws I have gained will be found both to amplify and corroborate their views, and to clear up many difficulties. Entirely setting aside the knowledge which I had of thorough bass, I have gained the melodic gamut of the 12 major keys, note after note,—the 13th being the octave of the first, each note sounding from within itself the six tones (termed by Prof. Helmholtz "a complicated sprinkled chord") belonging to its harmony, and retiring in the most beautiful manner into the note from which they rose,—each showing its relative minor; octave after octave ascending or descending without limit, either in musical clef or in circles: and I prove why F sharp must have two poles. As a note, it must be F sharp; but when in advancing it becomes the root of D flat, it must be called G flat.

I show also that, although 18 tones are sounded, there can be only 12 major and 12 minor perfect harmonies. I gain the 12 major scales through the 12 major notes. The development of colours exactly corresponds with these musical laws.

If any of your readers are interested in this communication, they will find a fuller explanation in my former article, 'Tones and Colours,' referred to above. For many years I had the pleasure and profit of the late Dr. Gauntlett's acquaintance. He believed that my views were correct, and was hoping shortly to have paid me a visit and completed them, when his lamented death occurred. His kindness and mental powers are to me an irreparable loss. I am very desirous of finding some mind interested in the subjects of this letter who would enter into my theory. If published by an unknown individual, it would only be cast aside; and it has occurred to me that by the medium of your widely circulated paper I may obtain my desire.

F. J. HUGHES.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & Woods sold, for pounds, on the 15th inst., the following pic-

tures, by the late W. Linton: The Lower Waterfall at Rydal, Westmoreland, 52; A Forest Scene and Village in Cheshire, 52.

The same auctioneers also sold, for pounds, on the 17th inst., the following pictures, from the collection of the late Mr. J. Dailey: E. J. Niemann, Tramway Scene, near Atherton, 86; Ghosts' Walk, 79. E. Nicol, Wayside Gossip, 64. W. P. Frith, Jeanie Deans and Madge Wildfire, 127. W. Müller, Turkish Merchants fording the River Mangerchii, Asia Minor, Torchlight, 80. P. F. Poole, The Bower of Bliss, 168. A different property: C. Detti, A Lady Reclining, 52. J. Israel, Aaron and his Sons in the Tabernacle, 70. Sketch by the late J. Constable, A Distant View of Dedham, 63.

Fine-Art Gossip.

A PICTURE has just been added to the National Gallery, being that bequeathed to the nation by the late Mr. W. Linton, the well-known painter of classical landscapes, whose death we recorded not long since. The picture, which has been hung in the West Room, over MacLise's 'Hamlet,' is one of the deceased painter's best productions, instinct with solemnity and dignity befitting the subject. It is 'The Temples of Paestum,' and shows the ruins of those gigantic structures standing in the marshy level between the mountains and the sea. Above dense, huge, white cumuli appear in the blue firmament: the effect is that of full sunlight, not very purely or brilliantly painted, so that in this respect the picture fails, and descends almost to the level of a scene. In other points, however, where nature rather than the lamp has ruled, the new acquisition is creditable to the English school. It bears the number 1029, showing how rapid has been the increase of the National Gallery of late.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT writes that, owing principally to the unsettled state of public affairs, he has not been able to make that progress with his important picture which he anticipated—a considerable work, which he hoped to have completed, or nearly completed, by this time; at any rate, to have advanced so far that it might have been shown to the public during the coming season. It is probable that this artist may leave Jerusalem for England, or, if not, for Italy, before long, in order to transact some business needing his presence.

A NEW edition of the Catalogue of the National Gallery, British School, will shortly be issued.

THE city of Paris is about to honour MM. Daguerre and Niepce, famous in photographic annals, by the erection of a monument, comprising a group of figures, the erection of which has been confided to M. M. Meunier.

NEW measures for improving London thoroughfares are proposed by the Metropolitan Board of Works under the so-called "Metropolitan Streets Improvement Bill," which is to be brought before Parliament in the ensuing session. It is stated that this bill contains one or two provisions which are interesting to those who care for the beautiful in London streets. They will do well to attend to the subject. The most important of these decidedly unlovely plans involves the removal of the steps of the portico of the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, in order to allow of widening the proposed thoroughfare from Tottenham Court Road to Charing Cross. It is devised to make the approach to the portico at the north and south ends, and support the columns on a retaining wall, with a vertical face. This would be a most undesirable arrangement, fatal to the dignity of one of the best churches in London. Could not a compromise be made, by a slight sacrifice of convenience in the width of the road, by taking away part only of the steps, and, on the opposite side of the way, extending the foot-way to the wall of the National Gallery?

MESSRS. V. ROBINSON & Co. have formed, at 34, Wigmore Street, Cavendish Square, a rich and curious collection of embroideries, faience, and brass works, obtained in Persia and the Caucasus

during a search for ancient carpets. The collection will be on view till the 10th of next month.

THE substructure of some ancient walls has recently been discovered by excavators at work in the Rue de Strasbourg, Nantes. These buildings appear to have been of Gallo-Roman origin, and to have enclosed the city. With the remains, fragments of fluted columns, pottery, and other matters have been found. The Hôtel de Ville of Nantes is to be reconstructed; so, too, are the Musée and the Infantry Barracks.

IT is proposed to found a Society in Russia for the protection of Kurgans. These Kurgans are the tumuli which are dotted over the face of the country, generally covering the remains of some man of note among the ancient inhabitants. The greater part of them are private property, and they are now liable to be demolished, or at least to be neglected. But the proposed Society may be able, by entering into agreements with the proprietors, and holding out to them offers of rewards or honorary distinctions, to rescue from impending ruin these interesting historic monuments. The proposal will be brought before the notice of the Fourth Archaeological Congress, which is to be held at Kazan.

MUSIC

MR. WALTER BACHE'S THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONCERT. St. James's Hall, TUESDAY, February 27, at Half-past Eight o'clock. Listz's Symphonic Poem, 'MAZEPÁ' (first performed at the Crystal Palace), by increased orchestra of fifty performers. Principal Vocalists, Mrs. Alice Herbert, Miss Clara Herbert. Repetition of 'Les PRÉLUDES' (Listz's) & Vossler's 'Mazepá.' Piano-forte Concerto by Chopin (F minor) and Liszt (A major). Piano-forte, Mr. Walter Bache—Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Reserved Area, 5s.; Balcony, 2s.—Admission, 1s. Tickets may be obtained of Stanley Lucas, Weber & Co., 24, New Bond Street; usual Agents; and Austin's Ticket-Office, St. James's Hall.

MISS FLORENCE MAYE'S TWO PIANOFORTE RECITALS. Langham Hall, 43, Great Portland Street, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, March 1 and 15, at Half-past Three o'clock.—The Programmes will include works by Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Bach, Handel, Brahms, Oliver, etc., etc., etc. Alice Bennett, and Weber.—Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Admission, 1s. Tickets at Chappell & Co.'s, 50, New Bond Street; and at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall.

MR. HENRY LEMLIE'S CHOIR—TWENTY-SECOND SEASON. 1877. FIRST SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, St. James's Hall, at Eight o'clock.—SACRED AND SECULAR MUSIC, including Bach's Motets for Double Choir. "I will sing unto the Lord" (first time of performance in England). Soloists: Miss Robertson, Miss De Bonplanche (her first appearance in London), and Mr. Edward Lloyd. Pianoforte, Mr. J. G. Calcott. Organ, Mr. John C. H. Smith. Conductor, Mr. Henry Lemlie.—Stalls, 7s.; Balcony, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Admission, 1s. Tickets at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall; and all Music Publishers.

Musical Myths and Facts. By Carl Engel. 2 vols. (Novello, Ewer & Co.)

THE title of this work affords no notion of its real value. The "Myths" form but a very small portion of it; the "Facts" predominate so strongly that it would appear as if the two volumes were the matter which the author could not insert, from want of space, in his two erudite productions, 'The Music of the Most Ancient Nations' and his 'Introduction to the Study of National Music,' the last-mentioned volume specially, as it dwells on traditions and customs. The 'Myths and Facts' will form a valuable appendix to Mr. Carl Engel's former works. The chapters on Musical Myths and Folk-Lore, on the Superstitions concerning Bells, Musical Fairies and their Kinsfolk, on Diabolic Music, &c., really appertain to musical history proper. If some trivialities will be found in the mythical sections, there is ample information of a solid and instructive kind to compensate for the light portion. Indeed, the author starts with a declaration that his present contribution to musical literature is intended simply to set forth the truth; and, to establish the sincerity of his intentions, he supplies a sketch of Beethoven as he really appeared while walking in the fields near Vienna, a portrait that may tend to disturb the crotchetts of the admirers of idol-worship. Mr. Carl Engel's suggestion for the formation of a

musical library worthy of the country, should be studied by the librarians of the British Museum, for although of late years, thanks to the late Mr. Oliphant and Mr. Campbell Clarke, much has been done to complete the General Catalogue, it is quite clear that the collection of every trashy composition which is printed, and the entry of their titles, ought not to be the sole study of the officials. Mr. Carl Engel thinks that besides the quadrilles, polkas, and waltzes which are accumulated, works of a higher class ought to be included, such as the MS. scores of symphonies, overtures, and other orchestral compositions, besides vocal scores of various nations, chamber compositions in score, national music of all countries, scientific and theoretical works, &c. It is sad to attend sales of music, and to see the most valuable MS. productions of native and foreign composers fall into private hands, which ought to be in the British Museum. Mr. Carl Engel dwells on the spread of the study of classical compositions relating to music, and he points out that the few historical works maintain their value in the musical market. There can be no doubt that the intrinsic value of MS. scores will increase with their scarcity, and it is, therefore, important to secure for the National Musical Library, as early as possible. It is a fact that the choice compositions of Purcell and Bishop have been sold for a few shillings at our auctions.

Amongst the special subjects treated by the author are Sacred Songs of Christian Sects, English Instrumentalists, Curiosities in Musical Literature, Musical Scales in use of the present day; but the notice of Matheson on Handel, and the Chronology of the History of Music, will alone entitle 'Musical Myths and Facts' to be included in any collection. Czerny's ingenious chronological tables have been vastly improved upon by Mr. Engel in his compilation, for he has confined the divisions and subdivisions of the Austrian professor to one general index in alphabetical order, and a curious study this chronology is, owing to the affinities suggested by the names of musicians, men of letters, of science, &c., being placed in juxtaposition.

CONCERTS.

EACH composition by Herr Brahms new to this country is welcomed with increasing interest, for he is looked upon, at all events in Germany, as the musician of the day. However opinions may differ as to the character of his compositions, it is admitted by impartial judges that he is an original thinker, and in all his works evidence is afforded that he is striking out a new line for himself. Of the String Quartet in B flat major, Op. 67, executed for the first time on the 19th inst., in St. James's Hall, at the Monday Popular Concerts, the opening movement is brimful of new ideas; the composer asserts his individuality unmistakably in his imagery, and he maintains his reputation for variety of treatment in the development of his themes, which are diversified and elaborated by breaks in the *tempo* so peculiar to Beethoven. But, after this animated movement, comes an *andante* in F major, the gem of the Quartet, having a most melodious *motif*, and this is followed by what is equivalent to the *scherzo*, although not so named, *agitato allegro non troppo* in D minor and major, with trio in A minor. In the *finale*, Herr Brahms uses, as Beethoven liked to do, the variation form, returning *sec. art.* to the primitive key of B flat major; but the former has treated the eight variations after his own mode,

and the inner workings are most novel and ingenious. Herr Joachim has the credit of introducing this remarkable work, of which he was leader, allied with MM. Ries, Straus, and Piatti; well did they merit the enthusiastic applause which followed each movement, and the recall at the close of the Quartet. The other instrumental pieces were Mendelssohn's Pianoforte and String Trio in D minor, Op. 49, and Schubert's Pianoforte Sonata in B flat (the last), Op. 140 (posthumous), played by Herr Halle. It is not often that there is much temptation to call attention to the vocalists at these concerts; but there was a *début* last Monday, the importance of which cannot be over-rated. Since the passing away of Pischek and Staudigl, the advent of a baritone-bass, equal or approaching to either of these great artists, has been long looked for, and the more so since Mr. Santley has devoted himself to the lyric stage. In the person of Herr Henschel, the musical world can be congratulated on having a well-trained artist with a magnificent voice. He is very young, yet he has already made his mark in Germany. He studied at Cologne, and was destined to be a pianist; but the discovery of his fine organ induced him to take to a singer's career. He has, however, exhibited ability as a composer in Lieder, one of which, 'Der Trompeter von Säckingen,' a setting of Victor Scheffel's words, has met with much success. His songs on the 19th were from Handel's opera, 'Rinaldo,' 'Sibylla,' and two Lieder by Schubert, 'Die Neugierige' (No. 6 of the set in the series 'Die Schöne Müllerin,' Op. 25, introduced here by Miss S. Löwe at her concert) and the 'Ganymied,' Op. 19, of Goethe, dedicated to the poet. The auditory was taken by surprise by the sympathetic quality and expressive style of Herr Henschel, who was twice recalled after Handel's air, and equally applauded after Schubert's songs. There will be curiosity to hear the new vocalist in oratorio, for in the works of Handel, Haydn, Mendelssohn, &c., he is thoroughly versed.

The overture, 'Saul,' by Signor Bazzini, played here for the first time at the Crystal Palace Saturday Afternoon Concert, on the 17th inst., under the direction of Herr Manna, is a prelude to Alfieri's tragedy, and as such would be in its place in the theatre; but it is scarcely adapted for the concert-room. The hearers scarcely required Signor Bazzini's own explanation of his purpose to show Saul's ferocity, as his score is pre-eminently suggestive; excepting a melodious theme for the violoncello to indicate the song of David, it is a most fierce and boisterous overture. Strongly contrasted was the stately and dignified overture to 'Medée,' by Cherubini, which opened the scheme. The other instrumental items were Haydn's Symphony, letter Q, in G major, which was played when the composer received his degree of Mus. Doc. at Oxford, on the 7th of July, 1791, and Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto in G, Op. 58 (Mdlle. Krebs); the lady played without notes before her, and was recalled. The vocalists were Madame A. Sterling, who sang Bach's Slumber Song from the Christmas oratorio and Mr. Sullivan's song, 'The Lost Chord,' and Miss S. Löwe, who gave two fine airs from Beethoven's 'Egmont' and the 'Orpheus with his Lute' of Mr. Sullivan.

Signor Verdi's Manzoni Requiem-Mass was performed by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, under Mr. Barnby's direction, on the 19th inst., the solo singers being Madame Lemmens, Miss Anna Williams, Mr. Lloyd, and Signor Foli, with Dr. Stainer, organist; the work was also given on the 15th inst., at Mr. Kuhe's Brighton Festival, the soloists being Madame Sinico, Miss J. Jones, and Madame Patey, Mr. Cummings, and Signor Campobello, with the local chorus under Mr. R. Taylor's direction. The only encore was at Kensington, in the lovely duet, 'Agnus Dei,' well sung by Madame Lemmens and Miss A. Williams. It might be concluded from these two performances, that the 'Requiem' was becoming popular, but this would be a premature inference. In fact, since Signor Verdi conducted his 'Requiem' in May, 1875, at the Albert Hall, having as solo singers a never to be forgotten cast in Mesdames

Stoltz and Waldmann, Signori Masini and Medini, there has been little chance of hearing the Mass. Mr. Kube has a proprietary right in the 'Requiem' at Brighton, and its re-introduction at the Royal Albert Hall was backed by the presence of royalty. The Requiem is in this position as regards popularity—it is too secular for the oratorio purists, and it is not operatic enough for the admirers of Verdi's compositions. He had not the daring of Rossini, who, in his 'Stabat Mater,' gave vent to his Italian inspirations, utterly regardless of religious services. Signor Verdi wavered between the ecclesiastical and the operatic schools, and the result has been that the brightest and best numbers of the Requiem are those which he could have introduced in his 'Nabucco' or 'Lombardi,' and his dullest and weakest portions are those in which he sought to be very solemn and very sacred.

Musical Gossip.

The notices of the opening concert, in St. James's Hall, of the Philharmonic Society, on the 22nd inst., and of the selection of sacred music performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society last night (23rd inst.), in Exeter Hall, will appear in next week's *Athenæum* (March 3rd).

DR. LISZT'S Symphonic Poem, No. 6, 'Mazeppa,' will be produced, with an augmented orchestra of ninety performers, under the direction of Mr. Manns, at Mr. Walter Bache's concert, on the 27th inst.

J. S. BACH'S Motett for double choir, 'Sing ye to the Lord,' in B flat, in four movements, will be executed, for the first time in this country, at Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir concert on the 2nd of March.

The programme of the second quartet concert given by Mr. Carrodus (violin) and Mr. E. Howell (violin cello), who have as colleagues Mr. V. Nicholson (second violin) and Mr. Doyle (viola), in the Langham Hall, on the 20th inst., comprised a Pianoforte and String Quartet, by Molique, in E flat, Op. 71; the String Quartet, by Beethoven, in C, Op. 59, No. 3; and Sterndale Bennett's Trio in A, Op. 26. Mr. Walter Bache was the pianist, Miss A. Butterworth, vocalist, and Mr. H. Thomas, accompanist.

MADAME SCHUMANN will make her first appearance this season at this afternoon's Saturday Popular Concert (the 24th inst.).

THE announced artists at the London Ballad Concert, on the 21st inst., in St. James's Hall, were Mesdames Lemmens, Cave Ashton, and A. Sterling, Messrs. Sims Reeves, Lloyd, Kempton Thornton, and Maybrick; Madame Arabella Goddard, pianist, and Mr. S. Naylor, accompanist, with the London Vocal Union.

MR. DANNREUTHER'S programme of chamber music, on the 15th, included the Pianoforte and String Quartet, in G minor, Op. 25, by Herr Brahms; the Quintet, in E flat, for piano and strings, Op. 44, by Schubert; and Chopin's Scherzo in B flat minor, Op. 31, for pianoforte. These instrumental gems were relieved by two vocal pieces, a duet, by Mr. Dannreuther, "In the white-flowered hawthorn brake," for soprano and tenor (words by Mr. W. Morris), and the duet between Didon and Enée, "Nuit d'Ivresse," from Berlioz's opera, 'Les Troyens à Carthage.'

THE amateurs associated with artistes of the Società Lirica, Belgravia, have attacked the difficulties of Weber's fine opera, 'Euryanthe,' which, despite its weak libretto, ought to be heard here, either in English or Italian.

THE University of Cambridge will confer the degree of Doctor of Music on Prof. Joachim on March the 8th. On the evening of that day a concert will be given by the University Musical Society at the Guildhall. An overture, composed for the occasion by Prof. Joachim, will be performed, as well as Brahms's 'Schicksalslied,' and (for the first time in England) his Symphony in C minor. Prof. Joachim will take part in the concert, the profits of which will be given to Addenbrooke's Hospital.

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THE three-act comic opera, "The Rose and the King," music by Miss Elena Norton, libretto by Miss Mary Heyne, which was recited at the Dublin Academy of Music before last Christmas, was given in public at the Ancient Concert Rooms, on the 13th inst., under the direction of Sir R. S. Stewart, Mus. Doc. Miss Elena Norton was encored in the ballad "He does not love me," as also in the valse, "I dance, I sing," and in the duet with her poet, Miss Mary Heyne, "This pretty ring." There were re-demands for six other numbers of the score. The work has now only to go through the ordeal of a stage representation, with full orchestra, and a *mise en scène*, to show that the "Rose and the King" of two young lady students can be added to the répertoire of the lyric drama.

A NEW cantata, called "The Fishermens," for female voices, by Mr. Henry Smart, will be performed by the pupils of the Royal Academy of Music, at their concert this evening, the 24th inst.

At the inauguration concert of the new Salle Erard, in Paris, M. Deldevez conducted a selection of works, with a band composed of the Conservatoire executants, by Haydn, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Weber. The vocal pieces were sung by Mdlle. Marimon, Mdlle. Engall, M. Capoul, and M. Bouhy; the accompanists were MM. Maton and Danbé. All the leading artistic celebrities of Paris were invited to the inauguration, which has benefited the Association des Artistes-Musiciens, as Madame Erard presented to the funds a donation of 3,000 francs, as a memento of the opening of the new Salle de Concert.

M. GOUNOD is trying to tempt M. Obin, so long the leading bass of the Grand Opéra, to return to the lyric stage in the Salle Favart, and to undertake the character of the monk Joseph (Cardinal Bicheliere's right hand), in the new opera, "Cinq Mars, Grand Ecuier de France," which will be probably produced in April next, although M. Carvalho is anxious to have the first representation next month.

THE ballet to be introduced in M. Massenet's new work, "Le Roi de Lahore," now preparing at the National Opera-house, in Paris, will be in the third act, and is called "Le Paradis d'Indra." The action of M. Gallet's libretto passes prior to the introduction of the Mohammedan religion in Lahore. The chief characters have been assigned to Mdlle. De Reské, Mdlle. Fouquet, M. Salomon (the title-part), M. Lassalle, M. Menu, and M. Boudouresque.

INSTEAD of appearing in Auber's "Maison," as intended, Mdlle. Fechter will make her *début* at the Opéra Comique in the "Mignon" of M. Ambroise Thomas. Mdlle. Donadio-Fodor (granddaughter of the famed *prima donna*, Madame Fodor, of the King's Theatre, Haymarket) will make her first appearance in M. Gounod's "Philémon et Baucis."

THE "Timbre d'Argent," the new opera by M. Saint-Saëns, was promised for some night this week at the Paris Lyrique; the book is by MM. Jules Barbier and Michel Carré.

SIGNOR MASINI, the tenor, is promised to appear in "Aida" at the Paris Italian Opera-house, on the 27th inst.; on the other hand, his name is included in the list of artists to appear with Madame Patti, Madame Trebelli, &c., at the Imperial Opera-house, in Vienna, on the 3rd of March.

THE Russian Italian Opera season closed on the 18th inst.

THE "Walküre" of Herr Wagner, the first opera in the "Nibelungen," following the Prologue, "Das Rheingold," will be produced in Vienna on the 25th inst. (Sunday).

AN Italian Opera Season will be given next month in Berlin, under the direction of Signor Gardini, who has engaged Mdlle. Elelka Gerster as *prima donna*; Signor Marini, tenor; Señor Mandioroz, baritone; and Signor Bagagloli, bass. BERLIOZ'S *Légende dramatique*, in four parts, "La Damnation de Faust," was given on Sunday,

the 18th inst., at M. Pasdeloup's Concert Populaire, and also at the Concert du Châtelet.

THE Silesian Whitsuntide Musical Festival will be held at Breslau.

DRAMA

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THE MODERN SPANISH DRAMA.

THE theatrical season in Madrid promises to be an unusually brilliant and vigorous one. "Long runs," as understood nowadays in Paris and London, are not realized. On the Spanish side of the Pyrenees, twenty or thirty representations constitute a tremendous success. The young king, his widowed sister, and the *sangre azul*, patronize histrionics freely, and the stage is well supported by the general public. Since the days of the Interregnum, there is a marked improvement in both plays and players. The three principal theatres, the *Español*, the *Novedades*, and the *Apolo*, in one week produced six novelties. The first, "a trifle," in three acts, entitled "Auto de Fé." Unhappily the audience had neither faith nor charity, for, after the close of the first act, the "Noes" had it all their own way, the curtain falling before the conclusion of the second; the critics severely censure both manager and actors, not for producing or performing a bad play, but for their pusillanimity in stopping the performance. "When the spectators (writes the critic of *La Epoca*) manifest dissent, it is the duty of the actors to persevere manfully to the end; it may be both painful and annoying, but it is their duty, by their tact, talent, and determination, to endeavour to save the drama. The soldier never deserts his post, however great the danger; the artist accepts the same obligation, and should bravely fulfil it. Actors should use their talent to stem the torrent of dissent, and not desert their author." The great success of the season has been that of a drama, by Señor Echegaray, entitled "How it Begins and How it Ends." The situations are said to be strongly dramatic, and the dialogue elegant, fresh, crisp, and full of poetic fire; but, touching the moral, the more sedate critics of *La Corte* express themselves very unequivocally. The author appears to have ventured upon perilous ground, and the said critics are scandalized at his pointing his moral by forcing his heroine to play ugly pranks with the seventh commandment; but for its dramatic power and high poetical merit, and the tact of the actors, this play, no doubt, would have begun and ended its career on the first night. Two travesties of his drama have been produced, one with but little, the other with considerable, success. "Five Thousand Dollars," a comedy by Señor Osorio, is favourably noticed. The great event, however, proves to be a short drama by Señor Fernandez Bremon, entitled, "Dos Hijos" ("Two Sons"), and in which a Señora Civil, new, I fancy, to the Madrid boards this season, produced a profound impression by her elegance, intense feeling, and dramatic power. The story is simple and unpretending. Doña Teresa, a widow, has two sons; one, the soul of honour and affection, is absent in Cuba, upholding the honour of his country and her flag; the other, a "loafer," idle, sceptical, and imbued with what are termed in Spain "modern ideas"; he is proposing, without a pang of regret, to leave his widowed mother and his home to seek new scenes in America, exclaiming

Man is cosmopolite—

Home, friends, and country but chimeras.

The other characters represented are Don Tadeo, the village schoolmaster, and an orphan girl adopted by Raimundo's mother. In so thoroughly a Catholic country as Spain, it will readily be understood why one of the most effective scenes is that where the schoolmaster meets the young

philosopher, and relates to him that the Church is about to perform one of its most solemn and comforting rites at the death-bed of an old villager, urging him to accompany the procession of the host. Our young cosmopolitan remarks,—

I comprehend an invitation to a pious rite;
"Twill lack not helpers mid the simple here.
These sad and useless mummeries fill
My soul with keen aversion.

To which the schoolmaster rejoins, "What will the villagers say if you are absent from the throng?" our hero replies,—

They'll say I'm impious.

I admit I doubt: I've snapped in twain
And cast away the Church's chains.

I neither believe nor practice that she preaches.

The old schoolmaster becomes enraged, and tells him that, were he but a boy again, he would castigate him well. The young philosopher replied, laughing,—

Yes, yes; I see you'd fain be thought a wolf,
While I but note the coating of the lamb.

And, aside,—

A most excellent person, but a weak old man.

The simple-hearted Juanita now enters, on her way to place a gift of flowers upon the altar of the Virgin:—

Here's a sweet fresh rosemary for the Virgin's altar.
Wouldst care to see it? 'Twill make it bright and dazzling,
Already laden with rich kerchiefs,
Silken sash, and tall waxen lights,
With precious relics and bright silver jars,
All brimming o'er with flowers.

To which Raimundo replies, frigidly,—

Simple village prejudices.

Look you, Juanita, man was not born

To burrow in the earth as olive-trees their roots,

Nor to be chained to that hearth called home.

'Tis prejudicial, insufferable, an idea—

To which Juanita replies,—

What of affection?

Raimundo continues,—

To be extinguished.

Sons lose their fathers, daughters lose their mothers.

Nought changes in the outer world; a few tears,

And all is over.

In the golden age to come we shall suffer

No priest, no parish, no register, no widows,

Orphans, wives, or husbands. All will be free.

To which Juanita replies,—

Hush! my blood freezes as I listen.

News arrives of the death of the brother on the battle-field; this the schoolmaster breaks with rude tenderness to the mother, and hands to Raimundo the cross covered with his brother's blood. At this moment the procession passes and the church-bell tolls; the sceptic falls upon his knees converted, and all ends happily by his marriage with Juanita.

From these simple materials one of the most effective dramas ever produced upon the modern Spanish stage has been created. F. W. C.

Grammatical Gossip.

WATTS PHILLIPS'S drama, "Lost in London," first produced at the Adelphi in 1867, and subsequently played at the Princess's, has been revived at the theatre last named. It is a depressing piece, and needs acting far better than is now assigned to it to obtain any hold upon the public. Miss Coghlan is a competent actress, but the part of the heroine she now assumes is unsuited to her, or her performance of it is perfunctory. Mr. Emery, as the hero, shows the rough pathos characteristic of his acting, and Mrs. Mellon, in the character she originally took, exhibits gleams of her former power. In the remaining parts, however, the performance was unsatisfactory, and in some it was lamentable. The surroundings of the representation were as uncomfortable as the representation itself, and the whole constituted a lamentable exhibition of incompetency and mismanagement. A pantomime ballet which followed exhibited to advantage the powers of Mr. Paul Martinetti. It is founded upon the well-known drama of "Robert Macaire," after which it is named.

MR. TOM TAYLOR'S one-act comedietta, "Nine Points of the Law," has been revived at the Folly Theatre, with Mr. Lionel Brough as Ironside, Mr. Edouin as Cunningham, and Miss Lydia Thompson as Mrs. Smylie. It is acted with much spirit, Mr. Brough's impersonation of the rough manufacturer being especially good.

A SEASON of French plays will commence at the Gaiety on the 21st of May, and terminate at the close of July. The opening piece will consist of 'L'Ami Fritz,' with M. Febvre in his original character. This substantial fare disposed of, there will follow a much lighter entertainment, the succeeding attractions consisting of Madame Chaumont, Mdlle. Judic, and Mdlle. Theresa. An annual season of French plays is promised. The chance of this may, however, depend upon the result of the opening venture.

MISS GENEVIEVE WARD has appeared in Paris at a morning performance as Lady Macbeth in the sleep-walking scene, and as Lady Teazle in the 'School for Scandal.' The verdict of the French papers upon her performances is highly favourable, and her pronunciation of French is said to be perfect. It is amusing to read the criticisms of the Parisian press upon Sheridan's masterpiece, and the mistakes they make as to the characters. The *Journal des Débats* speaks of Lord Careless, Lord Teazle, and Mrs. Candaw!

THE new series of Crystal Palace plays will consist of dramas founded upon well-known novels, and will include adaptations of Miss Braddon's 'Lady Audley's Secret,' 'Henry Dunbar,' and 'Aurora Floyd'; Miss Edwards's 'Ought We to Visit Her?'; and Mrs. Henry Wood's 'East Lynne.' Messrs. Oxenford, Tom Taylor, W. S. Gilbert, C. S. Cheltnam, and George Roberts are respectively responsible for the versions.

THE first step in a movement, the end of which it is difficult to foresee, has been taken in the commencement of an unbroken series of morning performances at the Aquarium Theatre. As yet the entertainment is of the lightest, consisting only of Mr. Burnand's burlesque of 'Black-Eyed Susan.' More serious productions are, however, likely to follow. Mr. Gilbert's version of 'Great Expectations' will shortly be given at the evening performances.

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